

SEFF



**SYDNEY
FILM
FESTIVAL**

**5 – 16
JUNE
2024**

YOUR GUIDE TO THE 71ST SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL



WELCOME

NASHEN MOODLEY

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Storytelling has always been one of the crucial ways for us to comprehend and navigate challenging times. The empathy embedded in storytelling connects us deeply to one another. And in a packed-out cinema, experiencing these stories together, that feeling of community is even more pronounced.

There's never been a better time to listen to one another. And the sheer diversity of voices and experiences across the hundreds of films in this program makes it easy. There's something here to intrigue every movie lover and give them a laugh, an eye-opening experience, a thought-provoking epiphany or even just a diverting moment of pure cinematic pleasure.

I commend and congratulate the filmmakers presenting their films at the Festival for their tenacity and vulnerability. And I welcome you to share in the fantastic spoils of their craftsmanship with an open mind and heart.

See you at the cinema!



“THERE’S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO LISTEN TO ONE ANOTHER.”

— NASHEN MOODLEY, *FESTIVAL DIRECTOR*



DARREN DALE

FESTIVAL CHAIR

Welcome to Sydney Film Festival 2024.

SFF is at the centre of the cultural life of our city and is a beacon of artistic achievement and inspiration for creatives and audiences alike.

It is my great honour to join SFF as Chair this year, working alongside the formidable talents of Nashen and Frances and the rest of the festival's dynamic Board and Staff.

I am especially thrilled by the new First Nations Award – the richest cash prize for Indigenous filmmaking in the world, further cementing SFF as a global leader in surfacing First Nations talents and story-telling.

SFF only exists thanks to the generosity of our many partners. We are so thankful to the NSW Government through Screen NSW and Destination NSW; the Federal Government through Screen Australia; and our major Local Government partner, the City of Sydney.

Ultimately, SFF is about you, the audience, who join us each year to laugh, cry, be challenged and experience new worlds and ideas. This year you'll find a cornucopia of riches to experience and I look forward to seeing you there.



FRANCES WALLACE

FESTIVAL CEO

SFF71 is here – welcome back!

It's my honour to return as CEO, working with Nashen, Darren and the exceptional SFF Board, team, volunteers and extended community of film-lovers.

Last year we increased the audience by 20%+ and we plan to keep on building, so whether you're a new or returning Festivalgoer, please bring a mate and let's continue to elevate this extraordinary Sydney celebration of cinema together.

The future is bright thanks to SFF's government supporters, partners and the many Festivalgoers who donate. As a not-for-profit, SFF relies on the generosity of people like you to ensure we continue to produce a global gold-standard event.

Join us as we gather Festival-style to ignite connections, conversations and celebrate at SFF71!



THE HON. JOHN GRAHAM MLC

MINISTER FOR THE ARTS

Sydney Film Festival enriches the life of NSW every year and showcases the strength of the NSW screen industry. The NSW Government, through Screen NSW and Destination NSW, is proud to continue its support of one of Sydney's cultural icons.

Celebrating its 71st edition, SFF continues to bring the best of international cinema to NSW audiences – as well as showcasing Australia's established and emerging filmmakers. The Festival has launched the careers of some of our most exciting talents.

Screen NSW is the proud sponsor of the prestigious Sydney UNESCO City of Film Award, awarded to a NSW-based screen practitioner whose work shows extraordinary innovation and imagination.

Please enjoy the 71st Festival!



CLOVER MOORE

LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY

Sydney Film Festival is back! This iconic Festival celebrates world cinema, but it is also an iconic celebration of Sydney.

The City of Sydney is a proud partner of the Festival, which has become a truly essential part of the creative, cultural and economic life of our city. Join the party at the Festival Hub, the State Theatre and other Festival venues – now expanded to include IMAX, the City Recital Hall and the State Library of NSW.

Audiences will find much to love among this year's Australian and international feature films, documentaries and shorts. Sydney icons Midnight Oil open the Festival in Paul Clarke's *Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line*, while Ian Darling's *The Pool* spotlights Sydney landmark Bondi Icebergs.

SFFTV also returns once again to Martin Place, bringing the Festival to the heart of the city.

I hope to see you there.



SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

**5 – 16
JUNE
2024**

Opening Night	4	International Documentaries	26	Shorts	44
Closing Night & Awards	5	Sounds on Screen	32	SFFTV	45
Official Competition	6	Family	33	The Hub Talks & Events	46
First Nations Award	10	Europe! Voices of Women in Film	34	Restaurant Partners	48
Documentary Australia Award	12	Freak Me Out	36	Support	50
Dendy Awards for Australian Short Films	14	Screenability	38	Locations & Tickets	54
Special Presentations	16	FLUX: Art+Film	39	Index	56
Features	19	Retrospectives	40	Calendar	58
Box Set	25	Classics Restored	43		

VISIT [SFF.ORG.AU](https://sff.org.au) FOR TICKETS, PROGRAM INFORMATION AND MORE

JOIN THE CONVERSATION [#SYDFILMFEST](https://twitter.com/SydFilmFest)

 Sydney Film Festival

 @SydFilmFest

 @SydFilmFest

 sydfilmfest

 youtube.com/sydfilmfest

 sff.org.au



We acknowledge Australia's First Nations People as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land, and pay respect to the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, upon whose Country SFF offices are based. We honour the storytelling and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia.



Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line

OPENING NIGHT

OPENING NIGHT

The Sydney Film Festival **Opening Night Gala** is the biggest night on Sydney's film calendar. Celebrate world and local cinema alongside the people who create it at the majestic State Theatre and glorious Sydney Town Hall.

Kick off your Festival with the red-carpet world premiere of *Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line*, then join an exclusive afterparty worthy of one of Australia's greatest rock bands. Enjoy drinks, canapés and entertainment alongside international and Australian film industry guests at Sydney Town Hall.

A limited number of tickets are available so grab yours today!
This event is strictly 18+

- OPENING NIGHT (FILM + AFTERPARTY)** _____ **\$160**
- OPENING NIGHT (FILM ONLY)** _____ **\$55**
- OPENING NIGHT CONCESSION (FILM ONLY)** _____ **\$50**



Paul Clarke is a Logie-nominated Australian documentary filmmaker with a long list of credits. Clarke has profiled politicians (*Whitlam: The Power & The Passion*, 2013), cultural icons (*Brilliant Creatures: Robert, Germaine, Clive, and Barry*, 2015), and musicians (*John Farnham: Finding the Voice*, 2023), and he created and executive produced the award-winning ABC quiz show, *Spicks and Specks*.

MIDNIGHT OIL: THE HARDEST LINE

WED 5 JUN 7:00 PM STATE

15+

Australia | 2024 | 105 mins | In English | World Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Paul Clarke | Producers: Carolina Sorensen, Paul Clarke, Mikael Borglund, Martin Fabinyi | Production Company: Blink TV and Beyond Entertainment | Australian Distributor: Roadshow Entertainment

Contrary. Passionate. Outspoken. Over 45 years Midnight Oil helped shape modern Australia. This is their trailblazing story for the first time on film.

Across a 45-year career 'The Oils' helped shape modern Australia with anthems like "US Forces", "Beds Are Burning" and "Redneck Wonderland". Featuring unseen footage and interviews with every band member, alongside signature moments including the outback tour with Warumpi Band, their Exxon protest gig in New York and those famous "Sorry" suits at the Sydney Olympics, *Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line* traces the journey of Australia's quintessential rock band.

OTHER SCREENINGS:

SUN 9 JUN 6:00 PM STATE
FRI 14 JUN 12:30 PM STATE

CLOSING NIGHT AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Bid farewell to the Sydney Film Festival at the Closing Night Gala at the State Theatre. Find out which films take out SFF'S top prizes at our awards ceremony, then enjoy a screening of our fantastic Closing Night film still to be announced! Closing Night is a time to let your hair down after a marathon 12 days of movie watching, schmoozing and catching up with old friends – don't miss it.

Book early as tickets are limited!

CLOSING NIGHT SUN 16 JUN 7:00 PM _____ \$40

CLOSING NIGHT CONCESSION _____ \$35

FESTIVAL AWARDS

THE OFFICIAL COMPETITION AND SYDNEY FILM PRIZE

A prize awarded to the most "audacious, cutting edge and courageous" film in the Official Competition. Endorsed by FIAPF, the regulating body for international film festivals, this prize is judged by a jury of international and Australian industry professionals, who award a \$60,000 prize to the winning filmmaker.

The 2024 Official Competition Jury is led by Bosnian writer and director Danis Tanović as Jury President, joined by Indonesian director Kamila Andini, Australian producer Sheila Jayadev, US producer Jay Van Hoy, and Australian director Tony Krawitz.

FIRST NATIONS AWARD

Announced in February 2024, the inaugural First Nations Award is proudly supported by Truant Pictures with the world's largest cash prize for Indigenous filmmaking, \$35,000. Open to First Nations filmmakers from across the globe, the First Nations Award celebrates the profound contributions of First Nations filmmakers to the cinematic landscape. Any eligible film, including short films, featured within the Festival's First Nations program automatically qualifies for consideration for the Award.

TRUANT PICTURES

SFF DONOR SUPPORT

DOCUMENTARY AUSTRALIA AWARD

Supported by Documentary Australia, this prize acknowledges excellence in Australian documentary production. As well as receiving a \$20,000 cash prize, the winning film becomes Academy Award eligible.

DOCUMENTARY AUSTRALIA

SUSTAINABLE FUTURE AWARD

The Sustainable Future Award, with a cash prize of \$40,000, is the largest environmental film prize in the world. It is made possible through philanthropic support from a syndicate of passionate climate activists. The Award recognises a narrative or documentary film of any length that deepens our knowledge and awareness of the impact of the global climate emergency.

Films shortlisted for the Sustainable Future Award.

SFF DONOR SUPPORT

2024 SYDNEY UNESCO CITY OF FILM AWARD

This annual award recognises a trailblazing NSW-based screen practitioner whose work stands for innovation, imagination and high impact. Screen NSW awards a \$10,000 cash prize to the winner at SFF's Closing Night ceremony on Sunday 16 June.

NSW GOVERNMENT Screen NSW

DINOSAUR DESIGNS

All Sydney Film Festival Award winners are presented with the Festival's signature mesmeric swirl award, designed and handmade in Sydney by SFF's partners Louise Olsen and Stephen Ormandy of Dinosaur Designs.

DINOSAUR DESIGNS

OFFICIAL JURY PARTNER

PARKROYAL Darling Harbour, Sydney is proud to be the official home away from home for SFF's Awards Juries.

PARKROYAL DARLING HARBOUR SYDNEY



The Mother of All Lies director Asmaa El Moudir accepting the Sydney Film Prize in 2023.

As well as presenting the best filmmaking from around the world, Sydney Film Festival supports filmmakers, both emerging and established, through the presentation of 10 prestigious awards – and in 2024 will award a record-breaking prize pool of \$200,000.

Handed out by an independent jury, SFF's awards have provided momentum for filmmakers' careers for decades.

Festival-goers are also invited to cast their own votes in the GIO Audience Awards, with fabulous prizes up for grabs (see below).

DENDY AWARDS FOR AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILMS

SFF's prestigious Australian Short Film Awards were established in 1970 and have been sponsored by Dendy Cinemas since 1989.

- The Dendy Live Action Short Award, sponsored by Dendy Cinemas, provides a \$7,000 cash prize to the best Australian short fiction film. Winners are Academy Award eligible.
- The Rouben Mamoulian Award, sponsored by Dendy Cinemas and named after the director who first presented the award in 1974, provides a \$7,000 cash prize to the best direction of an Australian short film.

DENDY CINEMAS

- The Yoram Gross Animation Award, sponsored by Sandra and Guy Gross in memory of the late Yoram Gross, provides a \$7,000 cash prize to the best Australian animated short film. Winners are Academy Award eligible.

Yoram Gross FILMS

- The AFTRS Craft Award, sponsored by the Australian Film Television and Radio School, provides a \$7,000 cash prize for demonstrated excellence by a craft practitioner in an Australian short film.

AFTRS Australian Film Television and Radio School

- The Event Cinemas Rising Talent Award recognises an emerging short filmmaker with a cash prize of \$7,000. Open to film creatives, directors and screenwriters who have had no more than five short film credits.

EVENT CINEMAS

VOTE AND WIN!

GIO AUDIENCE AWARDS

Have your say! Rate all your feature-length faves at the Festival.

Vote and win the chance to host your own private screening for 50 friends of an audience award winning film, courtesy of GIO.

Be in the draw for other fantastic prizes and offers with SFF cinema venues.

The GIO Audience Awards for Best International Narrative Feature, Best International Documentary, Best Australian Narrative Feature and Best Australian Documentary are announced after the Festival.

HOW TO VOTE

Visit sff.org.au/vote and use the code at the bottom of your ticket to rate each film out of a possible 10 stars.

Or log in to the official SFF 2024 App, go to 'My Tickets', select a title and rate it out of 10 stars.

You can only vote once per ticket (full details on our website). Voting closes midnight 16 June 2024. Terms and conditions apply.

GET THE SFF 2024 APP





OFFICIAL COMPETITION

In 2024, the Official Competition celebrates 16 years of awarding the prestigious Sydney Film Prize to each year's most "audacious, cutting-edge and courageous" film.

Sydney Film Prize winners to date: *The Mother of All Lies* (2023), *Close* (2022), *There Is No Evil* (2021), *Parasite* (2019), *The Heiresses* (2018), *On Body and Soul* (2017), *Aquarius* (2016), *Arabian Nights* (2015), *Two Days, One Night* (2014), *Only God Forgives* (2013), *Alps* (2012), *A Separation* (2011), *Heartbeats* (2010), *Bronson* (2009), and *Hunger* (2008).

ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT



THU 13 JUN 6:00 PM STATE | FRI 14 JUN 3:05 PM STATE | SUN 16 JUN 6:15 PM DNT2

India, Netherlands, Luxembourg | 2024 | 115 mins | In Malayalam and Hindi with English subtitles

Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Payal Kapadia | Producers: Julien Graff, Thomas Hakim | Cast: Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha, Chhaya Kadam | Sales Agent: Luxbox

The first Indian film to appear in the Cannes Competition in 30 years, Payal Kapadia's dreamy romantic drama follows two women in Mumbai who are thwarted in their quests for love but retain hope.

Diligent nurse Prabha works in a busy hospital where she is also responsible for the training of new nurses. Her roommate is Anu, a younger fellow nurse. One day, Prabha receives the unexpected gift of a rice cooker from her estranged husband, who has worked abroad for many years. The gift causes her an inordinate amount of distress, forcing her to reflect on her marriage, and on the clear romantic interest of a doctor at the hospital. Meanwhile, Anu struggles to find a spot in the city to be intimate with her boyfriend, who is of a different religion. A trip to a beach town to help a friend provides an opportunity for both women to express their desires. Kapadia won the Golden Eye for Best Documentary at Cannes in 2021 for her hybrid film, *A Night of Knowing Nothing*. Here, in her first fiction film, she delivers on that great promise. Kapadia captures the city of Mumbai in an observational and dreamlike manner, revelling in the lives and dreams of two women in their search for love.



Payal Kapadia is a filmmaker based in Mumbai. A graduate of the Film and Television Institute of India, her shorts have been previously selected at Cinéfondation and the Berlinale. Kapadia's debut feature *A Night of Knowing Nothing* was selected for Cannes Directors' Fortnight 2021, where it won the Golden Eye for Best Documentary.

DYING STERBEN



15+

SUN 9 JUN 2:00 PM STATE | TUE 11 JUN 12:55 PM STATE | SAT 15 JUN 7:35 PM PNORT3

18+

Germany | 2024 | 180 mins | In German with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Matthias Glasner | Producers: Matthias Glasner, Jan Krüger, Ulf Israel | Cast: Lars Eidinger, Lilith Stangenberg, Corinna Harfouch | Australian Distributor: Palace Films

Winner of the Silver Bear in Berlin, this multi-generational epic follows a conductor and his turbulent family. Equally funny and poignant, it's anchored by a superb performance from Lars Eidinger (*Personal Shopper*, SFF 2016).

Eidinger plays Tom Lunies, a conductor in Berlin who is busy with a new composition, called 'Sterben' – or 'Dying' – written by his close and increasingly unstable friend Bernard (Robert Gwisdek). Tom is on the verge of fatherhood; his ex-girlfriend wishes him to co-parent her child, even though he is not the biological father. Meanwhile Tom's hard-partying sister, Ellen (Lilith Stangenberg), has just embarked on an affair with a married colleague (Ronald Zehrfeld; *Barbara*, SFF 2012), and rarely checks in on the pair's aged parents, Lissy and Gerd (Corinna Harfouch and Hans-Uwe Bauer). But the chaos and indignities of life make a family reunion unavoidable. Brilliantly performed by the ensemble, *Dying* is an exceptionally emotional film that, in spite of its title, is all about living.

Festival Guest: Matthias Glasner



Matthias Glasner was born in Hamburg in 1965 – his trilogy of films *Die Mediocren*, *Sexy Sadie*, and *Fandango* were premiered in Panorama during the 1990s, and his features *The Free Will* and *Mercy* have been Berlinale selected. Glasner has also directed the television series *Blochlin*, selected in the 2015 Berlinale Special Series section.

GRAND TOUR



SAT 15 JUN 9:00 PM STATE | SUN 16 JUN 12:00 PM STATE

15+

Portugal, Italy, France | 2024 | 129 mins | In Portuguese, Chinese, Thai, French, Burmese, Vietnamese, Filipino and Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director: Miguel Gomes | Writers: Miguel Gomes, Maureen Fazendeiro, Telmo Churo, Mariana Ricardo | Producers: Filipa Reis
Cast: Gonçalo Waddington, Crista Alfaite, Lang Khê Tran | Sales Agent: The Match Factory

Direct from the Cannes Competition, the latest from Miguel Gomes (*Tabu*, SFF 2012; *Arabian Nights*, Sydney Film Prize, SFF 2015) is a melancholic and mischievous chronicle of a romantic pursuit across Asia.

Rangoon, Burma, 1917. A British civil servant, Edward (Gonçalo Waddington) is due to be married to his fiancée Molly (Crista Alfaite), who has arrived from London for the wedding. But Edward panics before the nuptials and flees to Singapore. So begins his grand tour of Asia – whizzing through Bangkok, Manila, Saigon, Osaka and Shanghai. Molly is not easily dissuaded, however; determined to be married, she's even rather amused by Edward's cowardly skittishness. She sets off in pursuit, often narrowly missing her betrothed and sending telegrams notifying him of her progress. The word "stop" in her telegrams is both punctuation and an order. And while on the trail, Molly, with her boisterous laugh, is not short of admirers. With hilarious voiceover narration, and the dazzlingly beautiful and meticulous period scenes intercut with vibrant contemporary footage, Gomes has once again made a film that is funny, unique and beguiling.



Miguel Gomes is a Lisbon-based Portuguese director. His films *Our Beloved Month of August* (2008), *Tabu* (SFF 2012), *Arabian Nights* (winner of the Sydney Film Prize, SFF 2015), and *The Tsugua Diaries* (2019) have played at festivals around the world including at Cannes and the Berlinale.

KNEECAP



FRI 14 JUN 8:45 PM STATE | SAT 15 JUN 11:30 AM STATE | SUN 16 JUN 4:15 PM RITZ1

18+

Ireland, UK | 2023 | 105 mins | In English and Gaelic with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Rich Peppiatt | Producers: Trevor Birney, Jack Turling | Cast: Móglaí Bap, Mo Chara, Michael Fassbender | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

Rich Peppiatt's raucous, rude and riotously entertaining comedy stars three real-life Belfast rappers as themselves – and Michael Fassbender. Audience Award, Sundance NEXT strand.

Peppiatt's powerfully political comedy-drama about the survival of the Irish language is something of a miracle movie. Where else in the world could the legacy of trauma produce such hilarity and crowd-pleasing entertainment? Liam Óg Ó hAinle and Naoise Ó Cairealláin play themselves wonderfully in the origin story of their Belfast rap group Kneecap. We first meet them in the 2010s as drug-selling besties. More importantly, they're staunch patriots who speak Irish as an act of cultural maintenance, and in defiance of British imperialism. When nerdy music teacher JJ Ó Dochartaigh enters the scene, he encourages the lads to turn their notebook scribbles into highly charged polemical rap songs (and becomes their DJ). What follows is a rowdy and cheerfully rude showbiz story following the trio through drug-hazed nights and clear-eyed days, as their music begins to impact the broader community while inevitably angering authorities. Subversive, sexy, unfiltered, and with a significant supporting role for Michael Fassbender, this freewheeling and finger-flipping music biopic hits all the right notes.



Rich Peppiatt is a BAFTA-awarded Irish director based in Belfast. With filmmaking credits across film, television, and commercials, Peppiatt's debut *One Rogue Reporter* (2012) premiered at Sheffield Doc/Fest in 2014.

KINDS OF KINDNESS



SAT 8 JUN 8:30 PM STATE | MON 10 JUN 9:30 AM STATE | WED 12 JUN 7:00 PM RITZ1

18+

Ireland, UK, US | 2024 | 180 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

Director: Yorgos Lanthimos | Screenwriters: Yorgos Lanthimos, Efthymis Filippou | Producers: Yorgos Lanthimos, Ed Guiney, Andrew Lowe, Kasia Malipan | Cast: Jesse Plemons, Willem Dafoe, Emma Stone | Australian Distributor: The Walt Disney Company

This Cannes Competition contender from Yorgos Lanthimos (*Alps*, Sydney Film Prize 2012; *Poor Things*) is a darkly hilarious triptych fable starring Emma Stone, Jesse Plemons and Willem Dafoe.

The opening chapter of *Kinds of Kindness* follows a man who appears to lead a very happy and successful life. But we soon learn that he is in an iron grip – when he rebels and tries to take back control, the odds are stacked against him. Elsewhere, a cop is relieved when his wife, lost at sea while conducting research, is rescued. But then he becomes convinced that she is not who she says she is – that a doppelganger has returned in her place. And further afield, a duo conducts a search for a person with a very particular skill to occupy an elevated position in a spiritual sect seemingly built on sex. Reuniting with writing collaborator Efthymis Filippou (*Dogtooth*, *The Lobster*), Lanthimos explores three transgressive and bizarre scenarios, with surreal twists and turns along the way. Stone, Plemons and Dafoe are joined by a brilliant group of players – Hong Chau, Joe Alwyn, Mamoudou Athie and Hunter Schafer – in these strange, surprising and subversive tales.



Yorgos Lanthimos is an internationally renowned filmmaker born in Athens, whose film *Alps* won the Sydney Film Prize in 2012. Lanthimos' filmography includes *Poor Things* (2023), *The Favourite* (2018), *The Lobster* (2015), and *Dogtooth* (2009), and he has received numerous accolades for his work – including the Jury Prize in Cannes and the Golden Lion in Venice.

MARCELLO MIO



SAT 15 JUN 6:30 PM STATE | SUN 16 JUN 9:30 AM STATE

15+

France, Italy | 2024 | 121 mins | In French and Italian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Christophe Honoré | Producers: Philippe Martin, David Thion | Cast: Chiara Mastroianni, Catherine Deneuve, Melvil Poupaud | Australian Distributor: Palace Films

Christophe Honoré's inventive Cannes Competition entry brings together an all-star French cast (playing themselves) in this charming and delightfully meta comedy paying homage to the great Marcello Mastroianni.

Chiara Mastroianni, the daughter of Marcello Mastroianni (*La Dolce Vita*, *8½*) and Catherine Deneuve (*Belle de Jour*, *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*), is an actress disillusioned with the business. The shoot she's on is absolutely chaotic and unpleasant. When she auditions for a role in a new film, she's told by the director: "More Mastroianni than Deneuve ... More Marcello than Catherine." She starts to feel she might prefer to live her father's life, leading to Chiara beginning to dress and speak like him – and then insisting on being called Marcello. Her mother (Deneuve herself) reacts with bemusement and concern, but others (like actor Fabrice Luchini) go with the flow. Soon, Chiara is in Rome, retracing Marcello's steps but also on a path to re-finding herself. Reimagining some of Marcello Mastroianni's iconic roles, *Marcello Mio* is a playful depiction of the challenges and joys of the creative life under the shadow of famous parents.



Christophe Honoré is a French director and writer with numerous credits across film, theatre, opera and literature. Born in Brittany, France, his film *Metamorphosis* (SFF 2015) played the Venice Film Festival, and his films *Love Songs* (2007), *Sorry Angel* (2018) and *Room 212* (2019), amongst others, were selected for Cannes.

MIDNIGHT OIL: THE HARDEST LINE



WED 5 JUN 7:00 PM STATE | SUN 9 JUN 6:00 PM STATE | FRI 14 JUN 12:30 PM STATE

15+

Australia | 2024 | 105 mins | In English | World Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Paul Clarke | Producers: Carolina Sorensen, Paul Clarke, Mikael Borglund, Martin Fabinyi
Production Company: Blink TV and Beyond Entertainment | Australian Distributor: Roadshow Entertainment

Contrary. Passionate. Outspoken. Over 45 years Midnight Oil helped shape modern Australia. This is their trailblazing story for the first time on film.

Across a 45-year career 'The Oils' helped shape modern Australia with anthems like "US Forces", "Beds Are Burning" and "Redneck Wonderland". Featuring unseen footage and interviews with every band member, alongside signature moments including the outback tour with Warumpi Band, their Exxon protest gig in New York and those famous "Sorry" suits at the Sydney Olympics, *Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line* traces the journey of Australia's quintessential rock band.

"There is no other rock band in the world like Midnight Oil," Clarke said. "For half a century they were fearless, contrary, and totally original. When Australia was creaking under the weight of its own myths, they told us the truth. Their songs pinpoint the fault-lines in our culture, they rage against the strange and dangerous times we've lived through, and they offer hope."

Festival Guests: Paul Clarke and members of the film team



Paul Clarke is a Logie-nominated Australian documentary filmmaker with a long list of credits. Clarke has profiled politicians (*Whitlam: The Power & The Passion*, 2013), cultural icons (*Brilliant Creatures: Robert, Germaine, Clive, and Barry*, 2015), and musicians (*John Farnham: Finding the Voice*, 2023), and he created and executive produced the award-winning ABC quiz show, *Spicks and Specks*.

SEPTEMBER SAYS



TUE 11 JUN 6:20 PM STATE | WED 12 JUN 3:05 PM STATE

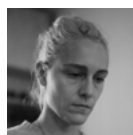
18+

France, Greece, Ireland, Germany, UK | 2024 | 100 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Ariane Labeled | Producers: Chelsea Morgan Hoffmann, Lara Hickey, Ed Guiney, Andrew Lowe
Cast: Mia Tharia, Pascale Kann, Rakhee Thakrar | Sales Agent: The Match Factory

Acclaimed actor Ariane Labeled (*Attenberg*, SFF 2011; *Alps*, SFF 2012) makes her directorial debut with this Cannes-selected Gothic psychological drama, in which the closeness of two sisters becomes increasingly disruptive.

Teenage sisters July (Mia Tharia) and September (Pascale Kann) are extremely close. So entwined that they seem to require no one else. They tolerate their single mother, Sheela (Rakhee Thakrar, *Sex Education*), but even at school, the duo's interactions with the other students are mostly acrimonious. Born just 10 months apart, September is extremely protective of July, but she also expects her sister to follow every instruction, however unreasonable. When July begins to exert her independence and acts on the attraction she feels for a boy at school, things take a bad turn. Mother and daughters decamp to an old family home in Ireland, where the bond between July and September takes on new, increasingly heightened dimensions. In her visually inventive, atmospheric and surreal debut, director Ariane Labeled explores these familial ties – and a love so intense it transforms reality.



Ariane Labeled is a director, screenwriter, and actress. Her debut performance in *Attenberg* (Athina Rachel Tsangari, SFF 2011) earned her the Volpi Cup for Best Actress at Venice Film Festival, and the next year she starred in *Alps*, winner of the Sydney Film Prize in 2012. Labeled's debut short *OLLA* premiered at Cannes Director's Fortnight in 2019, and received the National Grand Prix at Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival.

PUAN



THU 6 JUN 6:00 PM STATE | FRI 7 JUN 12:45 PM STATE | SUN 16 JUN 4:00 PM HOC5

15+

Argentina, Italy, France, Germany, Brazil | 2023 | 109 mins | In Spanish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Directors, Screenwriters: María Alché, Benjamín Naishtat | Producers: Bárbara Francisco Mendivil, Barbara Sarasola Day, Federico Eibuszyc | Cast: Marcelo Subiotto, Leonardo Sbaraglia, Julieta Zylberberg | Sales Agent: Luxbox

In this hilarious, incisive comedy, a philosophy professor at a Buenos Aires university is threatened by a charismatic rival. As their battle spirals out of control, so does their nation.

Puan is the name of the street on which the Faculty of Philosophy and Literature of the University of Buenos Aires is located. Marcelo (Marcelo Subiotto) has dedicated his life to teaching philosophy there – and to the service of his mentor, Professor Caselli. When Caselli dies suddenly, Marcelo expects to continue his legacy and be appointed his replacement. Enter Rafael (Leonardo Sbaraglia): handsome and charismatic, he returns from prestigious European universities and becomes an immediate competitor for the role. As the two men attempt to outdo each other, the institution appears to be on the verge of collapse, and maybe the nation around them is too. At once hilarious comedy and devastating portrait of an economy and nation on the brink, *Puan* poses vital questions about what is truly important. Directors María Alché and Benjamín Naishtat say: "We see this film as a complex and dynamic experience in which the audience participates in a kind of Chaplinesque hilarity while, at the same time, asking questions regarding identity, existence, [and] the future."

Festival Guest: Benjamín Naishtat



María Alché is an Argentine director, screenwriter and actress. Her debut feature *A Family Submerged* (2019) won Best Film in Horizontes Latino at the San Sebastián Film Festival in 2018. **Benjamín Naishtat** was born in Buenos Aires, where he also studied cinema. His feature film *Historia del Miedo* was selected for competition at the Berlinale in 2014.

SUJO



WED 12 JUN 8:30 PM STATE | THU 13 JUN 3:05 PM STATE | SUN 16 JUN 6:05 PM DNT3

18+

Mexico, USA, France | 2024 | 125 mins | In Spanish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Directors, Screenwriters: Astrid Rondero, Fernanda Valadez | Producers: Astrid Rondero, Fernanda Valadez, Diana Arcega
Cast: Juan Jesús Varela, Yadira Pérez, Sandra Lorenzano | Australian Distributor: Vendetta Films

Winner of the Sundance Grand Jury Prize, Sujo is unlike anything you'd expect from a Mexican cartel drama, as it follows a cartel-born child from infancy to manhood in an epic life-affirming odyssey.

Sujo is orphaned when his assassin father is murdered by his own cartel. Even though he's only four, the boy is considered a liability, and the cartel orders his death to ensure there'll be no reprisals to worry about in the future. But young Sujo is protected by his aunt, growing up in the isolated countryside. The spectre of the cartel is never far away, however: Sujo reaches his teens and is tempted to join the local cartel, and even when he moves to the city, the world of violent criminality is never far away. Will he be drawn back to the life his father lived and died for? Directors Astrid Rondero and Fernanda Valadez create visually distinctive chapters as they tell this complex and immersive story. Comparisons to Richard Linklater's *Boyhood* have been made, and the films are similar not only in that both follow the main character over many years, but also in the extreme empathy and concern each character elicits from the audience. As Rondero and Valadez put it: "In the end, the whole film is a portrait of this young man, Sujo. A portrait but also a promise of the man he deserves to be."

Festival Guest: Astrid Rondero



Astrid Rondero and Fernanda Valadez are Mexican filmmakers who have collaborated together for over 15 years. Their shorts include *Of This World* (2010), *In Still Waters* (2011), and *400 Bags* (2014), and their feature film *Identifying Features* received the Gotham Award for Best International Film in 2020, alongside numerous accolades from Sundance, Zurich, and Thessaloniki.

THERE'S STILL TOMORROW

C'E' ANCORA DOMANI

**FRI 7 JUN 8:45 PM STATE | SAT 8 JUN 11:30 AM STATE | MON 10 JUN 6:15 PM PNORT3****15+**

Italy | 2023 | 119 mins | In English and Italian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director: Paola Cortellesi | Screenwriters: Paola Cortellesi, Furio Andreotti, Giulia Calenda | Producers: Lorenzo Gangarossa, Mario Gianani | Cast: Paola Cortellesi, Valerio Mastandrea, Romana Maggiore Vergano | Australian Distributor: Limelight Distribution

A box office phenomenon in its native Italy, where it outperformed *Barbie* and *Oppenheimer*, *There's Still Tomorrow* is a moving, empowering melodrama about an industrious woman in post-WWII Rome.

Paola Cortellesi directs and stars in this crowd-winning gem as Delia, a wife and mother doing her best to get by in the scarred city following the war. Money is short and her husband, Ivano, is a violent brute who responds to her morning greeting by slapping her in the face. Delia juggles taking care of the home, three children, and a bedridden father-in-law, with scrambling for cash to contribute to the household – and to the pockets of the ever-demanding Ivano. Delia's dream is for her daughter Marcella to marry well and lead a better, more comfortable life – the girl's romance with a boy from a business-owning family bodes well. She finds respite from the violence in a flirtation with an old suitor, Nino (Vinicio Marchioni), and in an unlikely friendship with an American soldier she meets on the streets. A mysterious letter compels Delia to make a momentous, life-altering choice. "I wanted to make a contemporary movie set in the past, because I think that unfortunately many things have remained the same," Cortellesi said. Shot with visual panache in sparkling black and white and with a wonderful soundtrack, Cortellesi has succeeded in making a vibrant, vital film that can lead to change.



Paola Cortellesi is an Italian actress, filmmaker, screenwriter and producer. Cortellesi's portfolio spans nearly 25 years of acting experience in Italian cinema, with credits including *Ask Me If I'm Happy* (2000) *Do You See Me?* (2014), and *Kidz* (2020). *There's Still Tomorrow* is Cortellesi's directorial debut.

VIỆT AND NAM**SUN 9 JUN 8:35 PM STATE | TUE 11 JUN 10:00 AM STATE****18+**

Vietnam, Philippines | 2024 | 129 mins | In Vietnamese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Directors: Trương Minh Quý | Producers: Bianca Balbuena, Bradley Liew | Sales Agent: Pyramide International

Potently combining the mystical and the political, Cannes Un Certain Regard contender *Việt And Nam* is the mesmerising and visually resplendent love story of two gay mineworkers.

Nam and Việt work deep within the bowels of the earth – mining coal in the near dark and in very dangerous conditions. But even in the mines, the two find romantic and erotic moments together, always in the knowledge that they will soon be separated. Nam intends to leave his country and his lover to make a perilous journey to a new life in Europe. Nam is inspired by his cousin already in Europe who sends money back to his mother, so she can afford the best house in the village. But before he can make the move, he must help his mother find the remains of his soldier father – buried in an unknown location deep in the forest. While on this committed search, the past and present mystically connect. Shot on 16mm film by young auteur Trương Minh Quý, *Việt And Nam* is a tremendously beautiful and atmospheric film to behold, with the visuals matched by a great narrative boldness and confidence.

Festival Guests: Trương Minh Quý and Nguyễn Thị Xuân Trang



Trương Minh Quý is a Vietnamese filmmaker born in Buon Ma Thuot, Vietnam. His films blend elements of documentary and fiction, the personal and political, within the context of his home country. Trương's works have been selected across international film festivals and exhibitions; including Berlinale, Locarno, New York, and Busan.

What's your most precious film from this year's festival?

WIN a private screening of an award-winning film, with 50 of your friends, family or colleagues on the guestlist.

Vote in this year's GIO Audience Awards to enter – use the SFF app or visit sff.org.au/vote

Terms and conditions apply. AAI Limited ABN 48 005 297 807 trading as GIO.

**SYDNEY
FILM
FESTIVAL**

**Protect
Precious**



FIRST NATIONS



This year, Sydney Film Festival is excited to launch the inaugural First Nations Award, proudly supported by Truant Pictures. This Award establishes the world's largest cash prize in global Indigenous filmmaking, awarding \$35,000 to the winning First Nations filmmaker.

From homegrown First Nations voices to Māori and Sámi narratives – these films are brimming with diverse ideas and rich perspectives from Indigenous storytellers.

Aaliyah Bradbury
First Nations Program Adviser

FIRST NATIONS AWARD
PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



THE CONVERT



FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM STATE 15+
SUN 9 JUN 8:00 PM HOC5
WED 12 JUN 6:15 PM RITZ5

New Zealand, Australia | 2023 | 119 mins | In English and Māori with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Lee Tamahori | Screenwriters: Lee Tamahori, Shane Danielsen | Producers: Robin Scholes, Te Kohe Tuhaka, Andrew Mason, Troy Lum | Cast: Tioreore Ngatai-Melbourne, Guy Pearce, Antonio Te Maioha
Australian Distributor: Kismet Movies

Guy Pearce stars as a British preacher caught up in 1830s Māori wars in Lee Tamahori's *Once Were Warriors*, 1993; *Mahana*, SFF 2016) sweeping historical drama. Toronto 2023.

When Thomas Munro (Pearce, excellent) arrives in the tiny coastal settlement of Epworth in 1830, he finds discontent, suspicion and friction. After saving the life of a chief's daughter, Rangimai (Tioreore Ngatai-Melbourne, *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*), Munro is thrust into political intrigue during the devastating Musket Wars between Māori tribes. Tamahori paints a meticulously detailed portrait of Māori communities and culture in the early days of colonialism, whilst expertly weaving in Munro's troubled past which intrudes on the increasingly bloody conflict surrounding him. Stunningly filmed in widescreen on location, including Whatipū beach, *The Convert* delivers gripping drama and extraordinary action.

Festival Guest: Lee Tamahori

ELLOGIERDU - THE TUNDRA WITHIN ME EALLOGIERDU-TUNDRAENS VOKTERE



WED 12 JUN 6:00 PM DNT3 18+
FRI 14 JUN 6:00 PM PNORT3

Norway | 2023 | 95 mins | In Northern Sámi with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Sara Margrethe Oskal | Producer: Mona Johanne Hoel | Cast: Risten Anine Kvermmo Gaup, Nils Ailu Kemi, Berit Anne Oskal Kemi | Production Company: Freedom From Fear Films

An artist returns to her childhood home, reconnecting with her Sámi heritage and finding love with a reindeer herder, in this strikingly beautiful Toronto-selected debut feature.

After living in Oslo for many years, artist Lena moves with her young son back to Sápmi in northern Norway to reconnect with her Sámi culture through an art project. While researching in the wintry tundra, she meets reindeer herder Máhtte whose mother, the head of the family, disapproves of their developing relationship. As decisions from the past come back to haunt her, Lena struggles to choose between her heart and her culture. This debut feature from Sara Margrethe Oskal – a director, screenwriter, actress and poet who grew up in a herding family in Kautokeino – was selected for the Toronto and Trømsø Film Festivals.

Screens with *Tayal Forest Club*

Festival Guest: Sara Margrethe Oskal

JE'VIDA



SAT 15 JUN 8:00 PM PALC1 15+
SUN 16 JUN 2:30 PM PNORT3

Finland | 2023 | 103 mins | In Skolt Sámi and Finnish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Katja Gauriloff | Screenwriters: Katja Gauriloff, Niillas Holmberg | Producers: Joonas Berghäll, Satu Majava, Anna Nuru | Cast: Agafia Niemenmaa, Heidi Juliana Gauriloff, Sanna-Kaisa Palo | Sales Agent: The Yellow Affair

The first film shot entirely in the Skolt Sámi language, award-winning director Katja Gauriloff's *Je'vida* tells the story of a Sámi woman in Finland facing the past she struggled to hide.

Iida is a woman hardened by decades of shame, carrying the weight of a life defined by prejudice because of her Sámi heritage. Confronted by the pain of her past, she sets out for Lapland alongside her niece, Sanna, to clear out their long-held family home in preparation for its sale. Iida's instinct is to burn anything and everything connected to her heritage. However, as she ruminates on her history, Iida finds herself facing a powerful reckoning – and the possibility of reclaiming an identity she had denied herself.

Screens with *First Horse*

KA WHAWHAI TONU STRUGGLE WITHOUT END



FRI 14 JUN 8:35 PM EV9 15+
SUN 16 JUN 3:45 PM RITZ5

New Zealand | 2024 | 115 mins | In Te Reo Māori and English with English subtitles | World Premiere
Director: Michael Jonathan | Screenwriter: Tim Worrall
Producers: Piripi Curtis, Thomas Parkinson | Cast: Temuera Morrison, Miriama Smith, Jason Flemyng
Australian Distributor: Transmission Films

Once Were Warriors stars Temuera Morrison and Cliff Curtis reunite for a historical epic about Aotearoa's first land war, when vastly outnumbered Māori fought against colonial soldiers.

Celebrated Māori director Mike Jonathan's *Ka Whawhai Tonu* boldly tells the story of a crucial battle in the first land wars fought in New Zealand's Waikato region. Amidst the chaos of the infamous 1864 siege of Ōrākau, two teenagers must seize command of their destinies and fight for freedom. Facing insuperable odds, the Māori tribes defiantly stand their ground in a struggle for sovereignty against the relentless advance of colonial forces. Presented in te reo Māori, this ambitious historical drama tells the story of a critical moment in New Zealand history from a Māori perspective.

Festival Guest: Michael Jonathan

THE MOOGAI



SAT 8 JUN 8:30 PM EV5 18+
SUN 9 JUN 8:45 PM DNT1

Australia | 2023 | 86 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Jon Bell | Producers: Kristina Ceyton, Samantha Jennings, Mitchell Stanley | Cast: Shari Sebbens, Meyne Wyatt, Tessa Rose | Australian Distributor: Maslow Entertainment

A malicious spirit enters the home of a young Indigenous couple with a newborn baby. Based on his SFF-winning short of the same name, writer-director Jon Bell's striking feature debut arrives direct from SXSW and Sundance.

The haunting history of the Stolen Generations looms large in this boldly conceived and stylishly executed psychological horror movie from Jon Bell (*The Chuck In*, SFF 2013). When successful city lawyer Sarah (Shari Sebbens) and husband Fergus (Meyne Wyatt) become parents for the second time, their joy is short-lived. Lurking in the shadows is a whispering creature that wants to steal their baby. Artfully weaving the story of Sarah's difficult family background into the nightmarish terror that begins to consume her, Bell delivers an eerie tale that unfolds at the intersection of primal fear, generational trauma and supernatural horror.

Festival Guests: Jon Bell and members of the film team

FIRST NATIONS SHORTS

FIRST HORSE



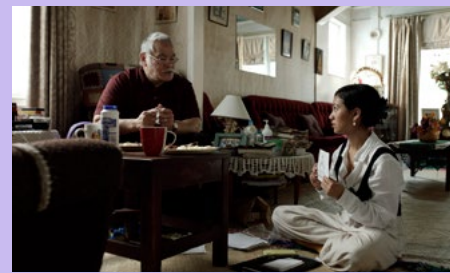
New Zealand | 2024 | 11 mins | In Māori with English subtitles

Director: Awanui Simich-Pene | Screenwriters: Awanui Simich-Pene, Heperi Mita | Producers: Mia Marama Henry-Teimey, Heperi Mita, Putiputi rā Simich | Cast: Te Atakōrihi Tūtengaehe, Troy Kingi | Festival Contact: Awanui Simich-Pene

It's 1826, and Aotearoa is on the cusp of colonisation. A young Māori girl's encounter with a dying man and his horse exposes her to the best and worst of her rapidly changing world.

Screens with *Je'vida*

LEA TUPU'ANGA/MOTHER TONGUE



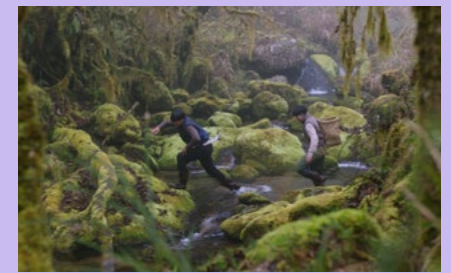
New Zealand | 2023 | 5 mins | In English and Tongan with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director: Vea Mafile'o | Screenwriter: Luciane Buchanan | Producers: Alex Lovell, Eldon Booth | Cast: Luciane Buchanan, Albert Rounds, Mikey Falesiu | Production Company: Run Charlie Films

A young speech therapist disconnected from her Tongan heritage lies about her Tongan language skills to get a job. Out of her depth, she must find a way to communicate or else she risks her patient's life. Sundance 2024.

Screens with *We Were Dangerous*

TAYAL FOREST CLUB



Taiwan | 2024 | 19 mins | In Atayal and Mandarin with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director: Laha Mebow | Screenwriter: Laha Mebow, Yayut Icyang | Producers: Adam Mazo, Chen Yi Chen, Kavita Pillay, Tracy Rector, Taylor Hensel | Cast: Yukan Losing, Buya Watan, Kesi Silan | Festival Contact: The Reciprocity Project

Taiwan's first Indigenous female film director Laha Mebow (*Gaga*, SFF 2023) shares a coming-of-age tale full of Tayal characters, settings, and symbols, about the complexities arising from her community's interactions with contemporary society.

Screens with *Ellogjerdu – The Tundra Within Me*

THE MOUNTAIN



SUN 9 JUN 9:30 AM STATE PG
MON 10 JUN 4:15 PM RITZ5
SAT 15 JUN 1:00 PM SLNSW

New Zealand | 2024 | 89 mins | In English and Māori with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Rachel House | Screenwriters: Tom Furniss, Rachel House | Producers: Morgan Waru, Desray Armstrong | Cast: Elizabeth Atkinson, Rueben Francis, Terence Daniel | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

Rachel House (*Hunt for the Wilderpeople*) makes her directorial debut with this riotous and colourful drama about three children discovering friendship's healing power through the spirit of adventure. From executive producer Taika Waititi.

The fearless and determined Sam is a young Maori girl on a mission to win her battle with cancer. She hopes to find strength under the watchful eye of Taranaki Maunga, or Mountain, and so embarks on the adventure of a lifetime. Sam meets some ragtag misfits along the way – the lonely yet adorable Mallory, hoping to find friends, and the fierce Bronco, a runaway from a father who is too busy to notice him. As they go off-the-beaten track, trekking through spectacular New Zealand landscapes, the trio learn the magic of adventure and true connection.

Festival Guest: Rachel House

WE WERE DANGEROUS



THU 13 JUN 6:00 PM EV9 15+
SAT 15 JUN 3:30 PM DNT1

New Zealand | 2024 | 82 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director: Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu | Screenwriters: Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu, Maddie Dai | Producers: Morgan Waru, Polly Fryer | Cast: Erana James, Nathalie Morris, Manaia Hall | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

From director Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu and executive producer Taika Waititi, *We Were Dangerous* is a funny yet frightening drama following three defiant girls caught in New Zealand's history of eugenics.

Two Māori teens, Nellie (Erana James, *The Wilds*) and Daisy (Manaia Hall), attempt to escape an institution for delinquent girls in 1954 New Zealand. They are caught, and – in the ensuing bureaucratic frenzy – relocated to a remote island facility, where they team up with well-to-do Lou (Nathalie Morris, *Bump*). Life on the island is dominated by The Matron (Rima Te Wiata, *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*), a stern taskmistress who delights in experimental dead-of-night punishments. Unbroken, the trio begin to plot another daring escape. Stewart-Te Whiu displays a deft hand with her trio of young stars in an ultimately inspirational film about the power of female friendship.

Screens with: *Le Tupu'anga/Mother Tongue*

Festival Guests: Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu and members of the film team

Australian Government | Screen Australia

Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line

Congratulations
to all the Australian titles screening at this year's festival

CELEBRATING AUSTRALIAN STORIES | www.screenaustralia.gov.au

DOCUMENTARY AUSTRALIA AWARD

Sydney Film Festival is honoured to present the annual Documentary Australia Award, supported by Documentary Australia.



This prize acknowledges excellence in Australian documentary production. As well as receiving a \$20,000 cash prize courtesy of Documentary Australia, the winning film becomes Academy Award eligible.

Previous winners: *Marungka Tjalatjuni (Dipped in Black)* (2023), *Keep Stepping* (2022), *I'm Wanita* (2021), *Descent* (2020), *She Who Must Be Loved* (2019), *Ghosthunter* (2018), *The Pink House* (2017), *In the Shadow of the Hill* (2016), *Only the Dead* (2015), *35 Letters* (2014), *Buckskin* (2013), *Killing Anna* (2012), *Life in Movement* (2011), *The Snowman* (2010), *A Good Man* (2009) and *Contact* (2009).



Matthew Thorne and Derik Lynch, winners of the 2023 Documentary Australia Award for *Marungka Tjalatjuni (Dipped in Black)*.

AQUARIUS



FRI 14 JUN 6:30 PM EV9
SAT 15 JUN 4:10 PM DNT3

15+

Australia | 2024 | 80 mins | In English | World Premiere
Director: Wendy Champagne | Screenwriters: Wendy Champagne, Karin Steining | Producer: Sam Griffin
Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

The dawning of the Aquarius Festival in Nimbin 1973 – an alternative gathering embraced by activists, hippies, and radicals that changed a town and a generation forever.

The small northern NSW dairy town was the perfect location, surrounded by farmland and rainforest. The inhabitants (all 300 of them) hoped the event would bring young people to their struggling town. Thousands arrived, all willing to contribute to the festival, whether by playing instruments or digging drains. It wasn't quite all saunas, nudity, acrobatics, and chilled-out bliss, however: festivalgoers faced down police interference, internal chaos, drugs and personal dramas. Nonetheless, countless participants found kinship as well as a blueprint for a sustainable life. The story of the festival is lovingly told with newly uncovered footage and interviews with festival co-founders and attendees.

Festival Guests: Wendy Champagne and Sam Griffin

THE BLIND SEA



TUE 11 JUN 6:15 PM EV5
FRI 14 JUN 6:15 PM DNT2

ALL AGES

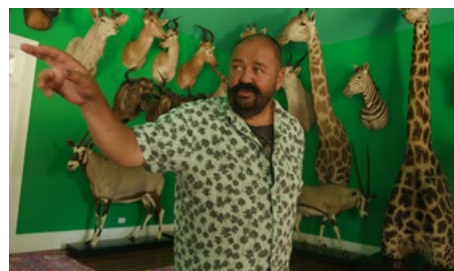
Australia | 2024 | 94 mins | In English | World Premiere
Director, Screenwriter Daniel Fenech | Producers: Heath Davis, Daniel Fenech, Dylan Longbottom, Nicola Nossal | Australian Distributor: Bonsai Films

Professional athlete Matt Formston confronts a new, awe-inspiring challenge: surfing the biggest wave ever tackled by a blind surfer.

At the age of five, Matt lost 95% of his vision. It never stopped him from living the life he wanted and he became a Paralympic cyclist and world record holder. Matt's life today isn't just about sport – he's also a husband, a father of three, and a corporate executive leading Diversity and Inclusion programs. Now a 4 x World Champion Para Surfer, Matt shares his experience by offering special blind goggles to Layne Beachley AO that recreate his vision on the waves. But the waves of the Sydney shoreline are nothing compared to Matt's biggest challenge yet: taking on the infamous waves of Nazaré, Portugal, with support from big wave legend Dylan Longbottom.

Festival Guests: Daniel Fenech, Matt Formston and members of the film team

DALE FRANK - NOBODY'S SWEETIE



FRI 14 JUN 6:00 PM SLNSW
SAT 15 JUN 1:30 PM AGNSW

ALL AGES

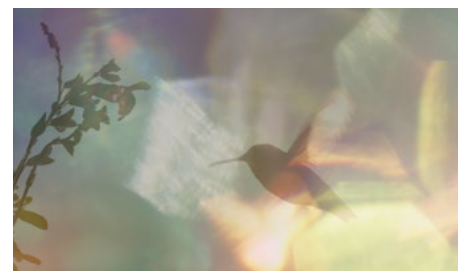
Australia | 2024 | 107 mins | In English | World Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Jenny Hicks | Producers: Sarah Beard, Jenny Hicks | Australian Distributor: Umbrella Entertainment

A charmingly intimate portrait of Dale Frank, hardworking artist and hermit, laying bare his creative process and his place in today's art world.

By turns irreverent and brash, charming and vulnerable, Dale Frank is not easily pigeonholed. He's an abstract painter, with occasional forays into ready-mades and sculpture. Contrasts abound even between his current cutting edge artistic output and his beautifully restored 19th century mansion in the NSW Hunter Valley. Eight weeks to his next exhibition at Sydney's Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, and with commissions coming in from overseas, Frank is working at pace. At the same time, he's creating a vast botanical garden and battling ongoing pain. Director Jenny Hicks (*The Stranger*, SFF 2021) revels in Frank's provocations, painting a cinematic and frank portrait of a singular artist.

Festival Guests: Jenny Hicks, Dale Frank and members of the film team

EVERY LITTLE THING



SAT 15 JUN 9:15 AM STATE
SUN 16 JUN 4:15 PM EV9

ALL AGES

Australia | 2024 | 93 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Sally Aitken | Producers: Bettina Dalton, Oli Harbottle, Anna Godas
Sales Agent: Dogwoof

Exquisite hummingbirds fill the screen in Australian filmmaker Sally Aitken's captivating story of a woman finding herself as she cares for the tiny birds. Selected Sundance and CPH:DOX.

Los Angeles resident Terry Masear nurses the many hummingbirds who fall foul of the environment. In nesting season, she takes hundreds of calls from people who've found traumatised mothers and chicks. Aitken (*Playing with Sharks: The Valerie Taylor Story*, *David Stratton: A Cinematic Life*) follows Terry as she goes through her meticulous, time-consuming routine of feeding and grooming her fragile charges. In caring for hummingbirds, Terry finds a graceful way through her own traumas. The birds' journey from injury to first flight is breathtakingly captured, revealing their oft-spunky personalities and resilient spirit. A compassionate and shimmering film to leave you humming.

Festival Guests: Sally Aitken and Bettina Dalton

MOZART'S SISTER



FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM SLNSW **ALL AGES**
SUN 9 JUN 3:00 PM HOC5

Australia | 2024 | 98 mins | In English | World Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Madeleine Hetherton-Miau
 Producer: Madeleine Hetherton-Miau, Rebecca Barry
 Australian Distributor: Bonsai Films

The story of the other Mozart, Maria-Anna, a child prodigy forgotten to time, as seen through the eyes of musicians, musicologists, and researchers.

Like her younger brother, Maria-Anna Mozart was a keyboard genius from an early age and the siblings toured Europe performing as *wunderkinder* to royalty. As a child it was acceptable for Maria-Anna to play in public. But when she reached 15, societal norms compelled her to retire. Tantalising clues exist of her continued virtuoso playing as well as her interest in composing music. Using recreations and expert interviews, Madeleine Hetherton-Miau (producer, *China Love* SFF 2018) explores the fascinating theory that Maria-Anna Mozart played a larger role in her brother's music than is previously known. Like *Charmian Clift – Life Burns High* (screening at the Festival), *Mozart's Sister* turns our gaze towards the unrecognised female creators of our time.

Festival Guests: Madeleine Hetherton-Miau and Rebecca Barry

REVEALED: OTTO BY OTTO



SAT 8 JUN 2:00 PM STATE **15+**
MON 10 JUN 3:30 PM HOC5

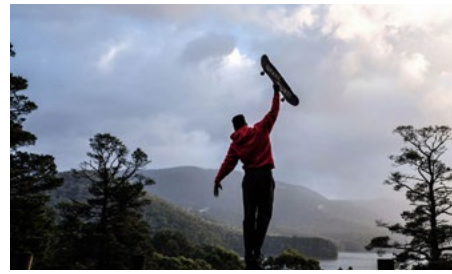
Australia | 2024 | 95 mins | In English | World Premiere
 Director: Gracie Otto | Screenwriter: Karen Johnson
 Producer: Cody Greenwood, Nicole O'Donohue
 Festival Contact: A Stan Original Documentary

Gracie Otto (*Under the Volcano*, SFF 2021; *The Last Impresario*, SFF 2014) attempts to capture the memories of her father, iconic Australian actor and artist Barry Otto (*Strictly Ballroom*, SFF 1992), before they are lost forever.

Barry Otto's career has spanned more than 50 years and close to a hundred theatre credits, encompassing the golden days of 1970s and '80s Australian theatre and film and cinema classics as *Bliss* (1985), *Strictly Ballroom* (1992) and *Così* (1996). Creative, eccentric, and endearing, Barry is a true original. Gracie's absorbing film is not a traditional biopic, but rather a deeply personal reflection on her relationship with her father shot over five years, in the twilight of his career and as his health deteriorates. *Revealed: Otto by Otto* both honours this outstanding artist and actor and preserves his memory.

Festival Guests: Gracie Otto, family and members of the film team

SKATEGOAT



SAT 15 JUN 6:20 PM EV5 **MA15+**
SUN 16 JUN 4:15 PM DNT1

Australia | 2024 | 85 mins | In English | World Premiere
 Director: Van Alpert | Screenwriters: Van Alpert, Justine A. Rosenthal, Michael Lawrence, Lester Jones
 Producers: Michael Lawrence, Nicholas Cook
 Australian Distributor: Roadshow Entertainment

A young boy's dream to become a pro skateboarder is captured in all its kinetic glory by renegade graffiti artist and acclaimed music video director Van Alpert.

Leandre Sanders, aka Skategoat, was born into a world of gangs and crime in Hawthorne, California. While his older brothers followed his parents into LA's violent street life, Leandre spent his days at Venice Beach Skatepark, where he caught the eye of filmmaker Van Alpert. Van documented the talented youngster's life for over a decade, as his family unravelled and his skills – including his unique 'no stance' skate style – took off. At 16, Leandre followed a girl to Melbourne, where he lived for over two years, and where his dream of becoming a professional skater started to become a reality. Van Alpert's documentary debut pulses with a tactile sense of street style and an incredible soundtrack from Tyler, the Creator, Tame Impala, and more. From the producers of acclaimed documentaries *Bra Boys* and *Fighting Fear*.

Festival Guests: Van Alpert and members of the film team

WELCOME TO BABEL



SAT 8 JUN 6:00 PM SLNSW **ALL AGES**
TUE 11 JUN 6:00 PM PALC1

Australia, China | 2024 | 99 mins | In English and Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles | World Premiere
 Director, Producer: James Bradley | Producers: Graeme Isaac, Carl-Ludwig Rettinger, James Bradley
 Australian Distributor: Bonsai Films

An absorbing documentary about Chinese-Australian artist Jiawei Shen's plans to create an epic work depicting his homeland's tumultuous recent history.

Jiawei Shen is an obsessive, determined man. But his latest project – 'Tower of Babel' – is crazy even for him (at least according to his wife, fellow artist Lan Wang). His goal is to create a monumental painting of the turbulent history of Communist China. It will take him years to complete, and the work is three storeys high, so he decides to build a new house and studio near his old Bundeena home. We learn about his fame in China through the story of his life: growing up in Mao's China, surviving the Cultural Revolution, emigrating to Australia, and winning the 2006 Sir John Sulman Prize. Director James Bradley has previously edited several SFF-selected titles (including *Finke: There and Back*, SFF 2018). In his feature-length debut, he has crafted a miniature epic as ambitious as his subject.

Festival Guests: James Bradley and members of the film team

WELCOME TO YIDDISHLAND



SUN 9 JUN 5:30 PM SLNSW **ALL AGES**
MON 10 JUN 2:00 PM RITZ5

Australia | 2024 | 95 mins | In English and Yiddish with English subtitles | World Premiere
 Director: Ros Horin | Screenwriters: Ros Horin, Steven Robinson | Producers: Ros Horin, Jeff Daniels
 Australian Distribution: Label Distribution

An upbeat, witty, and timely exploration of a global community of artists creating innovative work in their quest to rediscover and revitalise the endangered Yiddish language.

From behind-the-scenes with an acclaimed Yiddish-language version of *Yentl* in Melbourne, to enjoyably transgressive punk-Klezmer musicians, and Barrie Kosky's latest trailblazing production in Berlin – the endangered Yiddish language is alive and well in this rousing documentary. The language originated amongst the Jewish community in Eastern Europe, but almost disappeared when more than half of the world's Yiddish speakers were murdered during the Holocaust. Most of the artists and performers (aka Yiddishists) in the film didn't grow up speaking Yiddish, but all have found solace, identity, and inspiration in its rich traditions and culture. Ros Horin (*The Baulkham Hills African Ladies Troupe*, SFF 2016; *Rosemary's Way*, SFF 2020) has mapped a fascinating cultural history.

The screening on 9 June will be followed by a performance by The Bashevis Singers.

Festival Guests: Ros Horin and members of the film team

YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE YESTERDAY



SUN 9 JUN 6:15 PM EV3 **ALL AGES**
MON 10 JUN 4:15 PM DNT1
SUN 16 JUN 2:00 PM RITZ5

Australia | 2023 | 81 mins | In English
 Director, Screenwriter: Jolyon Hoff | Producers: Craig Griffin, Hamish Gibbs Ludbrook, Jolyon Hoff | Australian Distributor: Umbrella Entertainment

A cinematic ode to Australia's early surfing culture featuring evocative restored footage, a chilled-out soundtrack, and narration from surfing aficionados and heroes such as Tim Winton and Wayne Lynch.

In 1960s Australia, a generation travelled Australia's coastline seeking waves – and a different kind of life. Their odyssey was captured on 16mm film, now lovingly restored by The Surf Film Archive. Director Jolyon Hoff (*Watandar, My Countryman*) combines this never-before-seen footage with stories from the original filmmakers, surfing gurus and more. One enthusiast likens surfing to being "kissed by God" – a sentiment in keeping with the blissed-out vibes that permeate this sun-filled, salt-infused movie. The original soundscape is from Australian music collective Headland (led by Murray Paterson, a Tex Perkins collaborator).

Festival Guests: Jolyon Hoff and members of the film team.

SCREEN NSW

Screen NSW is the major government partner of the Sydney Film Festival.

With New South Wales the leading state for screen production, Screen NSW is dedicated to championing and supporting our thriving sector so NSW screen practitioners can continue to make groundbreaking content.

This year's lineup showcases leading cinema from around the world, including from right here in New South Wales.



screen.nsw.gov.au

Image still from *AQUARIUS*, Tilt Media & Entertainment Pty Ltd. Photo Peter Derrett

David Ma, winner of the 2023 Dendy Live Action Short Award for *The Dancing Girl and the Balloon Man*

SYDNEY
FILM
FESTIVAL



FESTIVAL

SYDNEY
FILM
FESTIVAL

SYDNEY
FILM
FESTIVAL

DENDY AWARDS FOR AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILMS

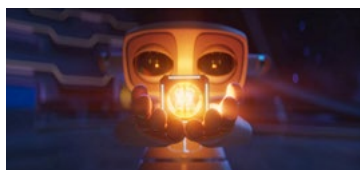
DENDY
CINEMAS

Sydney Film Festival's short film competition has launched the careers of countless directors, writers, producers, cinematographers and other film creatives in its 55-year history.

SAT 15 JUN 3:00 PM EV4 **18+**
SUN 16 JUN 3:45 PM EV5

The 10 finalists compete for five illustrious prizes: the Dendy Live Action Short Award; the Yoram Gross Animation Award; the Rouben Mamoulian Award for Best Director; the AFTRS Craft Award; and the Event Cinemas Rising Talent Award. All finalists screen together in two sessions with the filmmakers in attendance.

ALONE

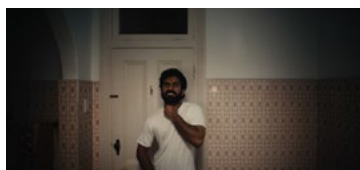


Australia | 2023 | 8 mins | No Dialogue
Australian Premiere

Director: Alex Weight | Screenwriters: Master of Animation and Visualisation Students 2023
Producers: Georgia Noe, UTS Animal Logic Academy | Production Company: UTS Animal Logic Academy

Come aboard transport ship CF 80622 en route to Earth 2.0 and witness one maintenance robot's attempt to evade loneliness.

BESHARAM! SHAMELESS

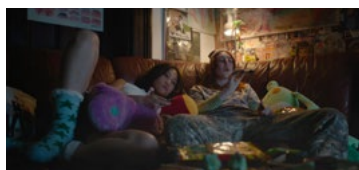


Australia | 2024 | 10 mins | In English and Hindi with English subtitles
Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter, Producer: Raghav Rampal | Cast: Nickin Alexander, Maxine Simmons, Tamara Lee Bailey
Production Company: Videohead

A mother-son relationship takes a strange turn when his addiction is discovered.

BONG XI FA CAI

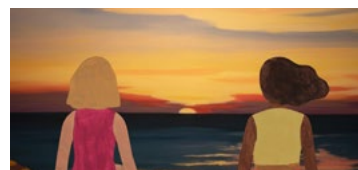


Australia | 2023 | 18 mins | In English and Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles
World Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Johnathan Lo
Producers: Georgia Noe, Johnathan Lo, David Ma | Cast: Priscilla Cui, Kate McGuinness, Ivy Fu | Festival Contact: Georgia Noe

Mary Chang, a 22-year-old slacker, accidentally eats her housemate's weed cookie before a family Chinese New Year celebration.

DARWIN STORY



Australia, UK | 2023 | 9 mins | In English

Director, Screenwriter: Natasha Tonkin
Producers: Yeshen Venema, Eero Heinonen | Cast: Kathryn Wilder, Lakesha Grant, Patricia Tindale
Festival Contact: Yeshen Venema

When her mother takes ill, a young woman abroad returns to Darwin. Is she ready to think differently about the place she calls home?

DIE BULLY DIE

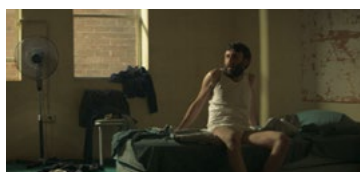


Australia | 2024 | 16 mins | In English
World Premiere

Directors: Nathan Lacey, Nick Lacey
Screenwriters: Drew Weston, Matthew Backer
Producers: Nathan Lacey, Nick Lacey, Matthew Backer, Nicole Thom, Drew Weston
Cast: Matthew Backer, Drew Weston, Ben Gerrard | Festival Contact: Nathan Lacey

A surprise reunion with a high school bully in a fancy restaurant resurfaces unresolved trauma. Is revenge a dish best served cold?

THE DISCONNECTED



Australia | 2023 | 15 mins | In Kurdish and Turkish with English subtitles
World Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Pia Derya | Producer: Pia Derya, Dennis Thunderbolt | Cast: Berk Ozturk, Timur Cakar, Bulent Deniz
Festival Contact: Pia Derya

A Kurdish man disenchanting by Australia decides to go back to Türkiye – but first he needs money.

THE GAY



Australia | 2024 | 12 mins | In English
World Premiere

Director: Madeleine Purdy | Screenwriter: Edward Watson | Producers: Madeleine Purdy, Jack Scott, Edward Watson | Cast: Jack Scott, Megan Smart, Liam Maguire | Festival Contact: Edward Watson

Egos clash on set between the director and leading man, triggering a professional and personal crisis.

THE MEANINGLESS DAYDREAMS OF AUGIE & CELESTE

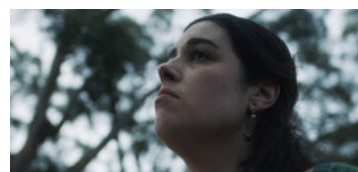


Australia | 2024 | 7 mins | In English
World Premiere

Director: Pernell Marsden | Screenwriter: Pernell Marsden, Gregory Kelly | Producer: Lauren Nichols, Sophie Booth | Cast: Libby Segal, Frankie Gillespie McKay, Siobhan Simpson | Festival Contact: Pernell Marsden

Two best friends embark on a high-stakes game of imagination, which takes an unforeseeable turn and threatens to jeopardise their relationship.

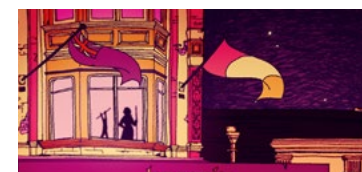
SAY



Australia | 2023 | 13 mins | In English
Director, Screenwriter: Chloe Kemp | Producer: Madeline Blake | Cast: Bridget Morrison, Nikita Chronis, Cleopatra Constantinou
Festival Contact: Chloe Kemp

With her partner behind the wheel, 21-year-old Dana decides to take control for the sake of her three-year-old daughter.

THIS WILL NEVER LAST



Australia | 2023 | 4 mins | In English
Directors, Screenwriters, Producers: Julia van Oppen, Katrina Lin, Holly May Fletcher
Cast: Kahn Coleman, Peter Perusco, Celine Frances | Festival Contact: Julia van Oppen

A mosaic animated illustration of a night out in Newtown.

YOUR FAVOURITE FACES
 YOUR PERSPECTIVE
 YOUR NEW DISCOVERIES

EVERY FILM DESERVES ITS AUDIENCE

Your donation assists SFF in keeping the cost of ticket prices at SFF reasonable. Ticket sales add up to less than 30% of the true cost of producing the Festival. Make your tax-deductible gift today.

DONATE NOW

www.sff.org.au/support-us

CHEAPER TICKETS
 YOUR CREATIVITY SEEN
 YOUR INSPIRATION

YOUR FRESH FILMMAKERS

— JOIN —

CLUB DENDY

AND SAVE UP TO
50% ON MOVIE
 TICKETS!



DISCOUNTED MOVIE
 TICKETS FOR YOU
 AND A GUEST



HALF-PRICE MOVIE
 TICKETS EVERY MONDAY
EXCLUDES PUBLIC
 HOLIDAYS



EARN POINTS ON MEMBER
 TICKETS AND REDEEM FOR
 REWARDS



CANDY BAR
 DISCOUNTS
EXCLUDING ALCOHOL



BIRTHDAY REWARDS



ACCESS TO EXCLUSIVE
 PREVIEW SCREENINGS
 AND EVENTS

JOIN NOW

Terms and Conditions apply. Visit Dendy.com.au

dendy.com.au

CANBERRA | NEWTOWN | PORTSIDE | COORPAROO | SOUTHPORT | POWERHOUSE

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS



The Bikeriders



The Monk and the Gun

Lose yourself and celebrate cinema with the ultimate Sydney Film Festival experience at the magnificent State Theatre, your home for star-studded Festival faves. From red carpet events and world premieres, to award-winning films and special guests – elevate your Festival with our spectacular special selections.

THE BIKERIDERS



THU 6 JUN 8:45 PM STATE **15+**
SAT 8 JUN 7:30 PM HOC4
TUE 11 JUN 7:00 PM RITZ1

USA | 2023 | 116 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Jeff Nichols | Producers: Amon Milchan, Sarah Green, Brian Kavanaugh-Jones
 Cast: Jodie Comer, Tom Hardy, Austin Butler
 Australian Distributor: Universal Pictures International

Jodie Comer, Austin Butler and Tom Hardy lead a stunning ensemble cast in Jeff Nichols' (Take Shelter, SFF 2011) stylish, gritty take on the rise and menacing transformation of an iconic American motorcycle club.

When Kathy (Comer, *Killing Eve*) encounters Benny (Butler; *Elvis*, SFF 2022) at a biker bar, she's adamant that she wants nothing to do with his motorcycle club The Vandals. But the attraction is visceral, and they're married within weeks. The mercurial Benny is also utterly devoted to Johnny (Hardy), the family man who founded The Vandals. Once a hangout for two-wheel enthusiasts looking for a good time, the club grows and the membership becomes increasingly hard to control. Kathy finds herself having to compete for her husband's attentions. Inspired by Danny Lyon's '60s book of photographs depicting the club and its members, *The Bikeriders* is an epic and thrilling portrait of a clan-like subculture and the ties that bind.

THE CONVERT



FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM STATE **15+**
SUN 9 JUN 8:00 PM HOC5
WED 12 JUN 6:15 PM RITZ5

New Zealand, Australia | 2023 | 119 mins | In English and Māori with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director: Lee Tamahori | Screenwriters: Lee Tamahori, Shane Daniels | Producers: Robin Scholes, Te Kohe Tuhaka, Andrew Mason, Troy Lum | Cast: Tioreore Ngatai-Melbourne, Guy Pearce, Antonio Te Maioha
 Australian Distributor: Kismet Movies

Guy Pearce stars as a British preacher caught up in 1830s Māori wars in Lee Tamahori's (Once Were Warriors, 1993; Mahana, SFF 2016) sweeping historical drama. Toronto 2023.

When Thomas Munro (Pearce, excellent) arrives in the tiny coastal settlement of Epworth in 1830, he finds discontent, suspicion and friction. After saving the life of a chief's daughter, Rangimai (Tioreore Ngatai-Melbourne, *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*), Munro is thrust into political intrigue during the devastating Musket Wars between Māori tribes. Tamahori paints a meticulously detailed portrait of Māori communities and culture in the early days of colonialism, whilst expertly weaving in Munro's troubled past which intrudes on the increasingly bloody conflict surrounding him. Stunningly filmed in widescreen on location, including Whatipū beach, *The Convert* delivers gripping drama and extraordinary action.

Festival Guest: Lee Tamahori

DAHOMEY



SAT 8 JUN 4:25 PM STATE **ALL AGES**
SUN 9 JUN 2:45 PM DNT3
TUE 11 JUN 4:45 PM STATE

France, Senegal, Benin | 2024 | 67 mins | In French, English and Fon with English subtitles
 Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Mati Diop | Producers: Mati Diop, Eve Robin, Judith Lou Lévy | Australian Distributor: Rialto Distribution

Trailblazing filmmaker Mati Diop (Atlantics) won the Golden Bear at Berlinale 2024 for her ingenious documentary on the repatriation of royal treasures to present-day Benin in West Africa.

Plundered by French colonial troops in the late nineteenth century, 26 royal treasures from the Kingdom of Dahomey are about to be returned. What would these ancestral statues think about their homecoming? What do Benin's university students think now? What about all the hundreds of items that remain in European arts institutions to this day? A French-Senegalese filmmaker, Diop's work frequently tackles France's colonial legacy in North Africa. She won Cannes' Grand Prix for her debut feature, becoming the first Black woman to premiere a film in competition in Cannes.

THE DEAD DON'T HURT



THU 6 JUN 6:00 PM HOC5 **15+**
FRI 7 JUN 6:30 PM PNORT3
THU 13 JUN 8:40 PM STATE

Canada, Mexico, Denmark | 2023 | 129 mins
 In English, French and Spanish with English subtitles
 Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter, Producer: Viggo Mortensen, Jeremy Thomas, Regina Solórzano | Cast: Vicky Krieps, Viggo Mortensen, Solly McLeod | Sales Agent: The Festival Agency

Viggo Mortensen directs and stars opposite Vicky Krieps in this stunning feminist western about a romance in a time of corruption and war.

In the early 1860s, two immigrants, Vivienne (Krieps) and Holger (Mortensen), meet and agree to settle down together in the quiet town of Elk Flats, Nevada. The fiercely independent Vivienne refuses to be married, but she and Holger build a life together, finding joy and beauty even amid the harsh conditions. When Holger decides to fight in the Civil War, however, Vivienne is left to fend for herself in the town controlled by the corrupt Mayor Schiller (Danny Huston), his business partner Jeffries (Garret Dillahunt) and his unhinged son Weston (Solly McLeod). In his second film as director following 2020's *Falling*, Mortensen creates a riveting and moving portrait of a strong woman making her way in a world of ruthless men.

DESPICABLE ME 4



SAT 15 JUN 1:45 PM STATE **ALL AGES**

USA | 2024 | 95 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
 Director: Chris Renaud | Screenwriter: Mike White, Ken Daurio | Producers: Brett Hoffman, Chris Meledandri
 Cast: Steve Carell, Will Ferrell, Kristen Wiig
 Australian Distributor: Universal Pictures International

Gru (voiced by Steve Carell) faces a new nemesis (Will Ferrell) in Illumination's non-stop animated actioner *Despicable Me 4*, with a screenplay co-written by Mike White (*The White Lotus*).

Following the 2022 blockbuster phenomenon of Illumination's *Minions: The Rise of Gru*, the biggest animated franchise in movie history is back. This time, Gru (Steve Carell), the world's favourite supervillain turned Anti-Villain League agent, has a new son, and the youngster is intent on tormenting his dad. Worse, Gru must face a new bad guy in Maxime Le Mal (Will Ferrell) and his femme fatale girlfriend Valentina (Sofia Vergara), and the whole family is forced to go on the run. Kristen Wiig and Steve Coogan are among the returning cast in this hilarious adventure from the best in the animation business.

A DIFFERENT MAN



FRI 7 JUN 8:35 PM EV5 18+
MON 10 JUN 6:15 PM STATE
TUE 11 JUN 6:30 PM RITZ5

USA | 2023 | 112 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Aaron Schimberg | Producers: Vanessa McDonnell, Gabriel Mayers, Christine Vachon
Cast: Sebastian Stan, Renate Reinsve, Adam Pearson
Australian Distributor: Kismet Movies

In this meta dramedy, Sebastian Stan is brilliant as a man who undergoes radical surgery to become handsome – with *schadenfreude*-inducing results. A highlight from the 2024 Berlinale competition.

A brilliant Sebastian Stan plays Edward, an aspiring actor relying on niche roles that lean into his facial shape caused by neurofibromatosis. When Ingrid (Renate Reinsve; *The Worst Person in the World*, SFF 2022), an aspiring playwright, moves in next door, his infatuation with her leads him to seek radical medical intervention. After a Cronenberg-esque transformation, a new hunky looking Edward starts anew – with the old Edward now apparently gone. Years on, Ingrid unknowingly casts Edward in an off-Broadway play inspired by her 'late neighbour', leading to unexpected consequences. Aaron Schimberg's surreal spin on *The Elephant Man* will shock and surprise as it probes superficiality with wit and deadpan humour.

GREEN BORDER

ZIELONA GRANICA



MON 10 JUN 3:15 PM STATE 15+
THU 13 JUN 6:00 PM HOC5
SAT 15 JUN 5:45 PM RITZ3

Poland, France, Czech Republic, Belgium | 2023
152 mins | In Polish, Arabic, English and French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Agnieszka Holland | Screenwriters: Maciej Pisuk, Agnieszka Holland, Gabriela Łazarkiewicz-Sieczko
Producers: Marcin Wierchosławski, Agnieszka Holland, Fred Bernstein | Cast: Jalal Altawil, Maja Ostaszewska, Behi Djanati Atai | Australian Distributor: Sharmill Films

Legendary filmmaker Agnieszka Holland's gripping refugee thriller raised the ire of some Polish politicians and inspired protests on its way to a box office record. Special Jury Prize, Venice.

Set along the border between Belarus and Poland, Holland's (*Europa, Europa*, SFF 1991; *Spoor*, SFF 2017) striking black and white film looks at how refugees, lured by false promises, fall under the control of callous border guards and sinister politicians. *Green Border* follows a Syrian family that comes into contact with a young border guard and an activist determined to help. Oscar-nominated Holland's brilliant direction (in collaboration with associate directors Kamila Tarabura and Katarzyna Warzecha) vividly conveys the terrible moral quandaries faced by these individuals in this urgent film of great political and artistic impact.

KID SNOW



TUE 11 JUN 8:30 PM STATE 15+
FRI 14 JUN 7:00 PM HOC4
SAT 15 JUN 5:30 PM RITZ1

Australia | 2023 | 127 mins | In English | World Premiere
Director: Paul Goldman | Screenwriters: John Brumpton, Stephen Cleary | Producers: Lizzette Atkins, Bruno Charlesworth, Megan Wynn | Cast: Billy Howle, Phoebe Tonkin, Tom Bateman | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

A gritty dust-blown Aussie drama set in '70s outback WA, featuring a down-at-heel travelling tent boxing show rife with sex, sweat and swagger.

Phoebe Tonkin (*Boy Swallows Universe*) and Billy Howle (*The Serpent*) star in the story of a washed-up slugger given one last shot at the title from director Paul Goldman (*Australian Rules*, 2002; *Ego: The Michael Gudinski Story*, 2023). Kid Snow (Howle) wound up on the tent boxing circuit after squandering his chance at glory. Sunny (Tonkin) is a single mother who walks into Kid's life just as he's offered a lucrative rematch with the champ who floored him 10 years earlier. Goldman's beautifully photographed film brings to life a distinctly Australian form of entertainment that's now all but extinct, with an added mix of romance, blood, dust and redemption.

Festival Guests: Paul Goldman and members of the film team

LEE



FRI 7 JUN 8:00 PM HOC4 18+
SUN 9 JUN 2:30 PM SLNSW
SAT 15 JUN 4:00 PM STATE

UK | 2023 | 116 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Director: Ellen Kuras | Screenwriters: Marion Hume, Liz Hannah, John Collee | Producers: Kate Winslet, Lauren Hantz, Troy Lum, Andrew Mason, Kate Solomon, Marie Savare | Cast: Kate Winslet, Josh O'Connor, Alexander Skarsgård | Australian Distributor: STUDIOCANAL

Oscar winner Kate Winslet stars alongside Alexander Skarsgård in this fascinating true portrait of model turned WWII correspondent Lee Miller. Selected Toronto FF.

American Miller was enjoying a dissipated life with her bohemian friends in France, having abandoned modelling for photography, when WWII broke out. Joining her artist lover (Skarsgård) in London, she takes up a job at British Vogue documenting the home front. The intrepid Miller finds the job stifling, so she hustles her way through bureaucratic hurdles to the frontline. In France, she joins forces with photojournalist David E. Scherman (Andy Samberg), and together they document Europe's devastation. Miller's trailblazing career is vividly recreated by award winning cinematographer turned director Ellen Kuras. The brilliant cast also includes Marion Cotillard, Josh O'Connor, Andrea Riseborough and Noémie Merlant.

THE MONK AND THE GUN



SAT 8 JUN 9:15 AM STATE ALL AGES
THU 13 JUN 6:30 PM RITZ3
SUN 16 JUN 6:30 PM DNT1

Bhutan, France, USA, Taiwan | 2023 | 107 mins
In English and Dzongkha with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter: Pawo Choyning Dorji | Producers: Stephanie Lai, Jean-Christophe Simon, Hsu Feng, Pawo Choyning Dorji | Cast: Tandin Wangchuk, Deki Lhamo, Pema Zangpo Sherpa | Australian Distributor: Rialto Distribution

Bhutan, 2006, and the country's first democratic election is on the horizon. But trouble may be brewing when an elderly monk requests two guns. The latest charmer from Oscar-nominated Pawo Choyning Dorji.

Dorji's (*Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom*) Telluride-selected, delightfully droll and slyly satirical film takes place in rural Bhutan during the lead-up to his country's first-ever election. A trial run with fictional parties is planned to introduce voters to the concept of democracy. But when a dedicated young monk is asked by his elderly lama to bring him two guns before voting begins, it seems trouble is in store. A cavalcade of characters and misadventures ensue, in a tale as suspenseful as it is winning.

MY OLD ASS

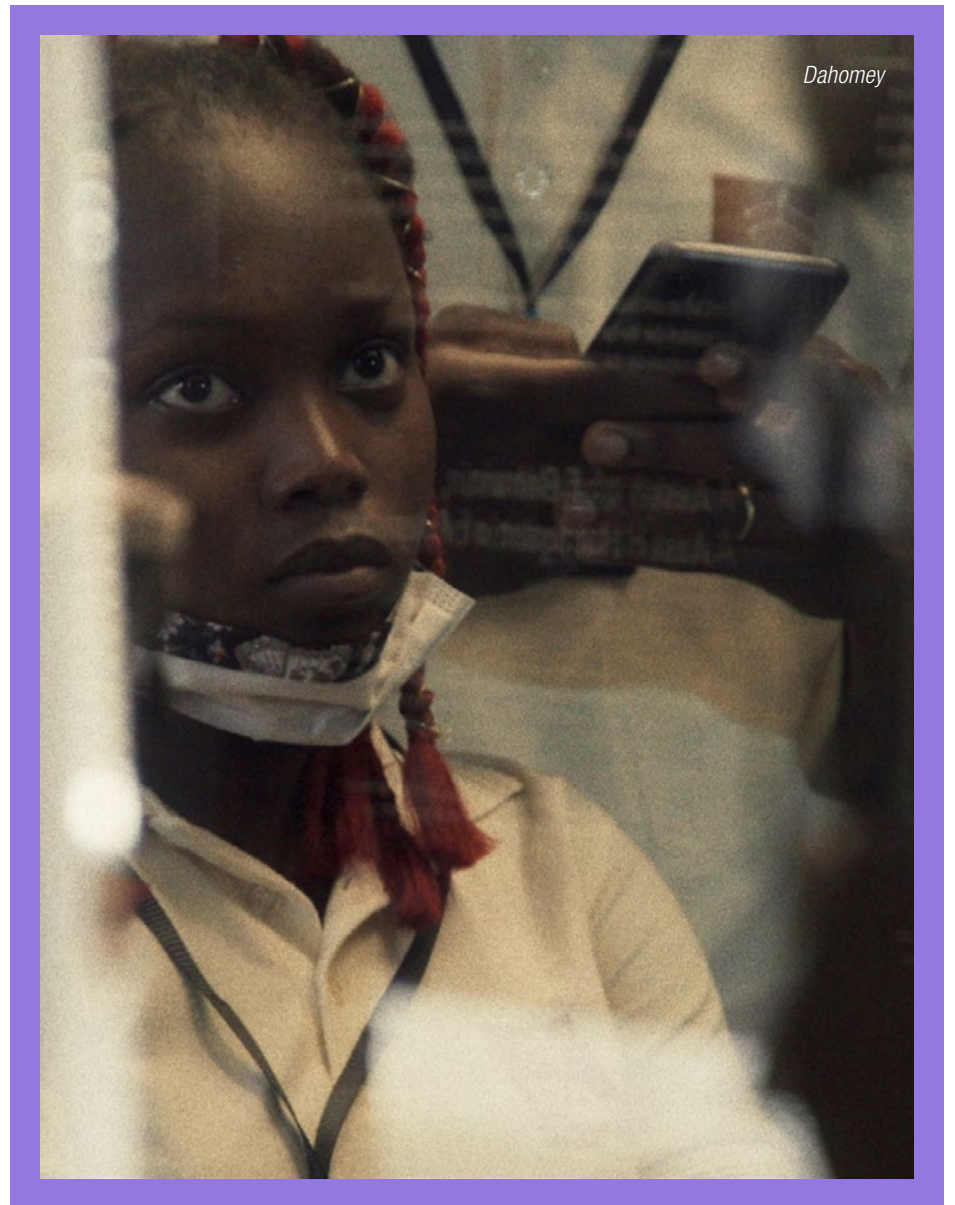


FRI 7 JUN 6:30 PM DNT1 15+
SAT 8 JUN 6:30 PM RITZ1
MON 10 JUN 8:40 PM STATE

USA, Canada | 2024 | 89 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Megan Park | Producers: Margot Robbie, Steven Rales, Tom Ackerley, Josey McNamara | Cast: Maisey Stella, Aubrey Plaza, Percy Hynes White | Rights Holder: Amazon MGM Studios

In this hilarious love story starring Aubrey Plaza and Maisey Stella, and produced by Margot Robbie, a young woman about to head off to college receives a visit from her future self.

Elliott (Stella) lives on an idyllic rural cranberry farm with her loving family. Her parents want to spend as much time with her as possible before she leaves for college. But Elliott is more eager to hang around with her friends – and to have sex with the girl she's long had a crush on. While on a very effective psychedelic mushroom trip, Elliott meets a woman (Plaza) who matter-of-factly says that she's Elliott's future self, then provides evidence and offers some very strong behaviour-related advice. As present Elliott struggles to follow future Elliott's advice (especially when it comes to matters of the heart), each comes to learn something from the other. A lightness of touch and winning performances make this a delightful take on the perils and pleasures of first love.



THE OUTRUN



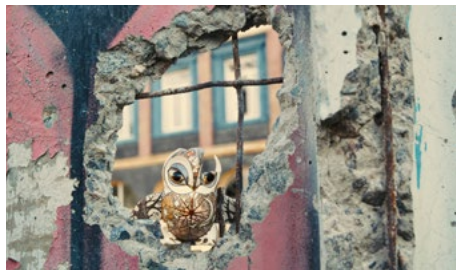
WED 5 JUN 6:00 PM HOC5 18+
 WED 12 JUN 6:00 PM STATE
 FRI 14 JUN 6:00 PM RITZ1

UK, Germany | 2023 | 118 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
 Director: Nora Fingscheidt | Screenwriters: Nora Fingscheidt, Amy Liprot | Producers: Saoirse Ronan, Dominic Norris, Jack Lowden, Sarah Brocklehurst | Cast: Saoirse Ronan, Paapa Essiedu, Saskia Reeves | Australian Distributor: Sony Pictures Releasing

Saoirse Ronan (*Brooklyn, Little Women*) is terrific as a recovering addict in this moving adaptation of Amy Liprot's 2017 bestseller set in Scotland's Orkney Islands. Sundance and Berlinale selected.

Adapted to the screen by writer-director Nora Fingscheidt, *The Outrun* is based on author Amy Liprot's own struggles with drugs and alcohol. After living on the edge and spiralling into addiction, Rona (Ronan) leaves London and returns to her childhood home, hoping to recover. Escaping her mother's well-intentioned interference, she takes a job as a bird observer on a tiny remote island. But she can't outrun the past, which threatens to overwhelm her – until Rona finally connects with the natural world in all its windblown, elemental glory. Ronan's outstanding performance beautifully portrays her character's fragility and grit as she journeys from destruction to serenity.

PORCELAIN WAR



SUN 9 JUN 11:45 AM STATE 15+
 FRI 14 JUN 6:30 PM DNT1

Australia, USA, Ukraine | 2024 | 90 mins | In Ukrainian and Russian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Directors: Brendan Bellomo, Slava Leontyev | Screenwriters: Paula DuPré Pesmen, Slava Leontyev, Brendan Bellomo, Aniela Sidoroska | Producers: Paula DuPré Pesmen, Olivia Ahnemann, Aniela Sidoroska, Camilla Mazzaferro | Production Company: Finch No Worries

The winner of the Documentary Grand Jury Prize at Sundance 2024 follows three Ukrainian artists who choose to stay behind and fight, defiantly finding beauty amid destruction.

Slava Leontyev sculpts delicate porcelain figures. His partner, Anya, illustrates them with exquisite images inspired by Ukraine's natural environment. The couple and their dog Frodo live in Kharkiv, not far from the Russian border. As the conflict intensifies, Slava swaps his kiln for the firing range, training people from all walks of life to defend themselves. The couple's long-time friend, refugee artist and DP Andrey Stefanov, vividly documents the determination of ordinary Ukrainians to hold onto their homes, way of life and memories. Anya's beautifully animated illustrations and the stirring music of Ukrainian band DakhaBrakha passionately underscore the vibrancy of a culture under threat.

Festival Guests: Camilla Mazzaferro and members of the film team

THE POOL



SAT 8 JUN 6:15 PM STATE ALL AGES
 SUN 9 JUN 5:30 PM HOC5
 SAT 15 JUN 3:00 PM RITZ1

Australia | 2024 | 95 mins | In English | World Premiere
 Director: Ian Darling | Producers: Ian Darling, Mary Macrae | Production Company: Shark Island Institute

A spectacular cinematic portrait of the iconic Bondi Icebergs – the pool and the people who cherish it – from *The Final Quarter* (SFF 2019) director Ian Darling.

Breathtaking footage and a quintessential soundtrack are woven into a meditative and poetic story. Icebergs is the most photographed pool in the world – an inviting destination for everyone from locals to tourists, beginners to competitive lap swimmers. From sunrise to sundown, rain or shine, we meet the diehard regulars recalling tales of Icebergs past and present. Darling and his team, including DOP Ben Cunningham, editor Sally Fryer and sound designer Paul Charlier, have crafted an evocative, joyous and beautiful picture of a beloved place and its community.

Festival Guests: Ian Darling and members of the film team

TOUCH



FRI 14 JUN 6:00 PM STATE 18+
 SAT 15 JUN 7:00 PM HOC4

Iceland, UK | 2024 | 121 mins | In English, Icelandic and Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director: Baltasar Kormákur | Screenwriters: Baltasar Kormákur, Ólafur Jóhann Ólafsson | Producers: Baltasar Kormákur, Mike Goodridge, Agnes Johansen | Cast: Egill Ólafsson, Pálmi Kormákur, Kōki | Australian Distributor: Universal Pictures International

Baltasar Kormákur's epic romantic story spans decades and continents as it follows a man's emotional journey to find his first love, who disappeared 50 years ago.

Widower Kristofer (Egill Ólafsson) sets off from Iceland on a seemingly impossible mission. Decades earlier, the young Kristofer (Pálmi Kormákur) meets his first love, Miko (Kōki), in London. A student of economics, he decides – as part-commitment to the working class, part-whim, part-dare – to give up his studies and work in a Japanese restaurant. And it's there he meets Miko, the owner's daughter, and romance blossoms. Then she disappears without trace. All these decades later, with limited time left, Kristofer tries to track her down, eventually leading him to Japan and an astonishing discovery. Based on the bestseller by Ólafur Jóhann Ólafsson and directed by Iceland's multi-award-winning director Kormákur, *Touch* is a deeply moving, delicate and spellbinding romance.



sydney.com



SPECIAL DOUBLE FEATURE EVENT

ALIENOID

ALIENOID: RETURN TO THE FUTURE



SEE THEM BACK TO BACK:
PART 1 SAT 8 JUN 6:00 PM EV3
PART 2 SAT 8 JUN 8:45 PM EV3

15+

SEE THEM OVER TWO NIGHTS:
PART 1 THU 13 JUN 6:30 PM EV5
PART 2 FRI 14 JUN 6:15 PM EV5

South Korea | 2023 | Part 1: 142 mins | Part 2: 122 mins | In Korean with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director: Choi Dong-hoon | Screenwriters: Choi Dong-hoon, Lee Ki-cheol | Producers: Choi Dong-hoon, Kim Sung-min, Ahn Soo-hyun | Cast: Ryu Jun-yeol, Kim Tae-ri, Kim Woo-bin | Sales Agent: CJ ENM

Strap yourself in for an epic two-part sci-fi/martial arts/fantasy/thriller of blockbuster proportions from Korean action master Choi Dong-hoon. See both films in this time travelling adventure for a double feature that will have you cheering in your seat.

On present-day earth, human bodies function as prisons for alien captives. Six centuries earlier, magicians and sorcerers compete for the mystical Divine Blade, which promises power and riches. When a portal opens between these two time periods, a spectacular entanglement ensues. Director Choi Dong-hoon (*The Thieves*, *Assassination*) has assembled an all-star Korean cast – including Ryu Jun-yeol, Kim Woo-bin and Kim Tae-ri (*The Handmaiden*, SFF 2016) – for a truly astonishing saga of spectacular scale. Watching *Alienoid* and *Alienoid: Return to the Future* together is a jaw-dropping and wildly entertaining experience not to be missed.



About Dry Grasses



Sasquatch Sunset



Unicorns

FEATURES

ABOUT DRY GRASSES
 KURU OTLAR ÜSTÜNE



SAT 8 JUN 4:30 PM EV4 18+
MON 10 JUN 12:00 PM SLNSW
SAT 15 JUN 6:00 PM HOC5

Türkiye, France, Germany | 2023 | 197 mins
 In Turkish with English subtitles
 Director: Nuri Bilge Ceylan | Screenwriters: Akin Aksu, Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Ebru Ceylan | Producers: Jonas Dornbach, Kristina Börjeson, Anthony Muir, Alexandre Mallet-Guy, Sébastien Beffa, Maren Ade, Janine Jackowski, Nadir Öperli
 Cast: Deniz Celiloğlu, Merve Dizdar, Musab Ekici
 Sales Agent: Playtime

Once Upon a Time in Anatolia (SFF 2012) director Nuri Bilge Ceylan's new film returns to that region to tell the tale of an art teacher accused of impropriety by a student.

Samet (Deniz Celiloğlu) is completing his compulsory service as a teacher in a remote Anatolian village, where the winters are brutal and the monotony overpowering. He longs for a posting to Istanbul. Samet has a particularly close relationship with a 14-year-old female student, Sevim, who one day makes a serious accusation against him. At the same time, Samet is competing with his roommate for the affections of fellow teacher Nurray (Cannes Best Actress Award winner Merve Dizdar, superb). The images are as ravishing as ever, and Ceylan, winner of the Cannes Palme d'Or for *Winter Sleep* (SFF 2014), once again captures the ambiguous morality and mysterious motivations of humanity with bracing clarity.

ACHILLES



TUE 11 JUN 6:00 PM EV3 15+
THU 13 JUN 8:30 PM DNT2
SUN 16 JUN 5:15 PM PNORT3

Iran, Germany, France | 2023 | 116 mins
 In Azerbaijani and Persian with English subtitles
 Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Farhad Delaram | Producers: Saeed Shahsavari, Johannes Suhm, Caroline Nataf, Frieda Oberlin | Cast: Mirsaeed Molavian, Behdokht Valian, Firouz Agheli | Sales Agent: Visit Films

An isolated hospital worker forges a tentative and dangerous connection with a mysterious patient, in this Iranian road trip-cum-fugitive movie about the quest for freedom in an unjust system.

Working nights in a local hospital, Farid is called up to the psychiatric ward to treat a female patient who is beating the walls that confine her. She wants to go outside, and one night Farid acquiesces to her request. What follows is a beautifully acted story about two characters on the run whose lives have been hollowed out by a repressive regime they feel powerless to escape. Farhad Delaram's debut feature is a moving look at the nature of heroism and a tribute to filmmakers such as Jafar Panahi (*No Bears*, SFF 2023) who continue to make films in the face of state persecution.

Festival Guest: Farhad Delaram

ALL SHALL BE WELL



THU 6 JUN 3:10 PM STATE 15+
SUN 9 JUN 4:00 PM EV3

Hong Kong | 2024 | 93 mins | In Cantonese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Ray Yeung | Producer: Stan Guingon, Michael J. Werner, Teresa Kwong, Sandy Yip, Chowee Leow
 Cast: Patra Au Ga Man, Maggie Li Lin Lin, Tai Bo
 Sales Agent: Films Boutique

This year's Berlinale Teddy Award winner and Hong Kong FF opener is an affecting and poignant queer drama about love, loss and legacy from acclaimed filmmaker Ray Yeung (*Suk Suk*).

Angie and Pat have been happily partnered for four decades. They're wealthy and content, but never wedded because of Hong Kong's marriage laws. They spend their days strolling, shopping, cooking, and hosting warm family gatherings in their spacious apartment. But when Pat suddenly passes away, Angie must fight for her estate as Hong Kong law defers to the male next of kin – her brother-in-law, Shing. The inheritance would mean an opportunity for Shing's family to step up from poverty, but at the cost of Angie's security. Multi award-winner Yeung's gift for reflecting domestic and cultural milieus with great empathy and gentleness is again in evidence here.

Festival Guests: Ray Yeung and Stan Guingon

ARMAND



FRI 14 JUN 8:45 PM DNT1 18+
SUN 16 JUN 6:05 PM EV5

Norway | 2024 | 113 mins | In Norwegian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Halfdan Ullmann Tøndel | Producers: Andrea Berentsen Ottnar | Cast: Renate Reinsve, Ellen Dorrit Petersen, Øystein Røger | Sales Agent: Charades

Direct from Cannes Un Certain Regard, this incredible debut stars Renate Reinsve (*The Worst Person in the World*, SFF 2021) as a mother called into her six-year-old son's school. Turmoil follows.

We meet Elizabeth (Reinsve) speeding in a car towards her son's school. She's been told that there's been an incident with her six-year-old son, Armand. Upon arrival, she finds that it's being handled by an inexperienced teacher, Sunna, and that the parents of Armand's playmate, Jon, are also there. Jon was found with a scratch to his face and has accused Armand of violence – and of making vile, very unchildlike threats. Soon, there are other teachers involved, Armand is being accused of 'sexual deviation', and long-buried secrets and lies come to the fore. Veering between the serious and the absurdist, *Armand* is stylish, provocative and unforgettable.

BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY

JIA TING JIAN SHI



FRI 7 JUN 8:20 PM EV3 **15+**
SUN 16 JUN 6:30 PM EV3

China, France, Denmark, Qatar | 2024 | 99 mins | In Mandarin with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Lin Jianjie | Producers: Lou Ying, Wang Yiwen, Zheng Yue | Cast: Guo Keyu, Xilun Sun, Muran Lin, Zu Feng | Sales Agent: Films Boutique

A quiet teenager seizes an opportunity to impress his new friend's moneyed parents in this suspenseful and meticulously observed thriller. A breakout critical hit from Sundance 2024.

After Wei, an outgoing athlete, accidentally injures his much poorer classmate Shuo, he invites the lonely boy home for dinner. It's a gesture he may regret: Wei's parents are moved by Shuo's tragic childhood, cultured tastes and attentiveness to their inner lives – and a kind of transference takes place. With China's one-child policy capping the number of children per family, they begin seeing Shuo as an improved version of their own son. Recalling *Parasite* and *Saltburn*, gifted first-time director Lin Jianjie's interloper drama examines the family with icy dispassion, microscopically interested in urban loneliness and the desires we project onto others.

CITY OF WIND

SÈR SÈR SALHI



THU 6 JUN 10:00 AM STATE **15+**
FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM EV9

France, Mongolia, Portugal, Netherlands, Germany, Qatar | 2023 | 103 mins | In Mongolian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Lkhagvadulam Purev-Ochir
 Producers: Katia Khazak, Charlotte Vincent | Cast: Tergel Bold-Erdene, Nomin-Erdene Ariunbyamba, Anu-Ujin Tsermaa | Sales Agent: Best Friend Forever

In one of the most highly regarded debuts of the year, a 17-year-old Mongolian shaman steeped in ancient tradition is confronted – and tempted – by the modern world.

The shaman 'Grandpa Spirit' – face concealed and with a mask that looks appropriately gnarled – ministers to his community, providing both moral and spiritual guidance. When the mask is removed, however, a gentle 17-year-old boy is revealed. Alongside his shaman duties, high school student Ze must work on his studies, which he does diligently. But Ze's world is thrown upside down when he's called to provide spiritual protection for a girl similar in age about to undergo heart surgery. An immediate attraction eventually leads to a relationship, and soon Ze is awakened to a lifestyle, with shopping malls and neon nightclubs, very different to his own. Talented director Lkhagvadulam Purev-Ochir uses this story to paint a revealing portrait of contemporary Mongolia in a film of great tenderness and power.

COTTONTAIL



SAT 8 JUN 2:30 PM HOC5 **15+**
SUN 9 JUN 4:15 PM RITZ5
WED 12 JUN 6:30 PM PNORT3

UK, Japan | 2023 | 94 mins | In English and Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Patrick Dickinson | Producers: Kosuke Oshida, Hélène Théodoly, Gabrielle Tana, Carolyn Marks Blackwood | Cast: Tae Kimura, Ryô Nishikido, Lily Franky | Australian Distributor: Kismet Movies

In this prize-winning and wistful road trip drama, a Japanese widower travels to England with his estranged son to scatter the ashes of his Beatrix Potter-obsessed wife.

Lily Franky (*Shoplifters*, SFF 2018) delivers a heartfelt performance as Kenzaburo, a man struggling with the death of his wife, Akiko. Lost in his grief and memories, Kenzaburo ignores his son Toshi's attempts to connect. But Akiko had a dying wish: for her ashes to be scattered across Lake Windermere, based on a rosy childhood memory of chasing a *Peter Rabbit*-esque cottontail. Father and son embark on a cross-cultural journey, taking us from the noise of Tokyo to the vast English countryside. Winner of Best First Film in Rome, director Patrick Dickinson demonstrates a deft hand in this gentle tale of unspoken regret. Ciarán Hinds (*Belfast*) also stars.

CROSSING



WED 5 JUN 6:15 PM EV3 **18+**
SAT 8 JUN 7:15 PM PALC1
WED 12 JUN 6:15 PM DNT1

Sweden, Denmark, France, Türkiye, Georgia | 2024 | 105 mins | In English, Georgian and Turkish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Levan Akin | Producer: Mathilde Dedye | Cast: Mzia Arabuli, Lucas Kankava, Deniz Dumanli | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

A Georgian woman traverses contemporary Istanbul in a tender, soul-searching pilgrimage to find her runaway transgender niece. Berlinale's Teddy Jury Award winner from Levan Akin (*And Then We Danced*).

To fulfill the dying wish of her sister, retired teacher Lia (a dignified and impressive performance from Mzia Arabuli), sets off on foot to find her estranged niece, Tekla, who fled Georgia at a young age across the border to Türkiye. Before she leaves, Lia gets a lead from the cocky Achi – who himself desires to run away. The unlikely duo set off with little money and only each other for support, to navigate the vibrant, cobbled streets of Istanbul's queer district. This is a road movie, and a personal, introspective journey of reconciliation, instilled with a poetic exploration of marginalised communities abandoning a place that doesn't accept them.

DADDIO



WED 12 JUN 8:30 PM DNT1 **18+**
FRI 14 JUN 8:15 PM HOC5
SUN 16 JUN 6:30 PM RITZ1

USA | 2023 | 101 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Christy Hall | Producers: Ro Donnelly, Christy Hall, Paris Kassidokostas-Latsis, Dakota Johnson, Emma Tillinger Koskoff, Terry Douglas
 Cast: Sean Penn, Dakota Johnson | Australian Distributor: Sony Pictures Releasing

Dakota Johnson and Sean Penn go head-to-head in this tense yet tender two-hander shot almost entirely in a New York City taxi where confessions run up with the meter.

On arrival at JFK airport, Girlie (Johnson) hops into the back of a cab driven by the opinionated Clark (Penn). What transpires is an epic journey of armchair psychoanalysis spanning sex, relationships, gender, power and grief. When roadwork slows the trip to midtown Manhattan, Clark coaxes personal details from his cagey passenger by offering some of his own. The two take turns one-upping the other with all the skeletons in their respective closets, until Girlie drops the ultimate bomb. Produced by Johnson herself, Christy Hall's feature directorial debut was originally conceived as a stage play but is vividly cinematic thanks to multi-Academy Award-nominated cinematographer Phedon Papamichael.

DEATH OF A WHISTLEBLOWER



SAT 8 JUN 6:15 PM RITZ3 **15+**
SUN 9 JUN 8:15 PM EV11
WED 12 JUN 6:00 PM HOC5

South Africa | 2023 | 126 mins | In English, Afrikaans and Zulu with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Ian Gabriel | Producers: Louis Viljoen, Marius Scholtz, Philip Roberts, Kelly Eve Koopman
 Ian Gabriel, Tshepiso Chikapa-Phiri, Moroba Nkawe | Cast: Noxolo Dlamini, Irshaad Ally, Anthony Oseyemi | Sales Agent: Known Associates Entertainment

In this edge of your seat thriller from South Africa, a journalist investigates the death of her colleague. Was he murdered for exposing government corruption?

Investigative journalist Luyanda (Noxolo Dlamini, superb) goes after the stories others don't want to touch. When a fellow journalist is murdered, Luyanda feels certain that it has to do with a big story her friend was working on – one exposing government corruption on a massive scale. As Luyanda gets closer to the truth, her investigations become increasingly perilous, and even those close to her are put at risk. Prominent director Ian Gabriel (*Forgiveness*, SFF 2005; *Four Corners*, SFF 2014) ratchets up the tension in this pulsating thriller that highlights the very real dangers that whistleblowers in South Africa face by coming forward.

DO NOT EXPECT TOO MUCH FROM THE END OF THE WORLD



WED 5 JUN 6:30 PM DNT2 **18+**
THU 13 JUN 8:30 PM EV3

Romania, Luxembourg, France, Croatia | 2023 | 163 mins | In Romanian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Radu Jude | Producers: Ada Solomon, Radu Jude, Adrian Sitaru | Cast: Ilinca Manolache, Ovidiu Pirşan, Nina Hoss | Sales Agent: Heretic

Romanian maverick Radu Jude (*Bad Luck Banging or Loony Porn*, SFF 2021) returns with a darkly absurdist, hilarious comedy about a woman casting a corporate safety video in Bucharest.

Angela works as a production assistant on a safety awareness video commissioned by a multinational. Tasked with casting the video, she encounters a range of severely injured workers, all competing for the main role – and a cash prize. Worked to the brink, Angela spends her downtime making social media videos in which she spoofs misogynistic boors. Jude intercuts the contemporary action with footage from an actual Romanian film from 1981, *Angela Goes On*, about a woman taxi driver facing the indignities of working the streets. Unpredictable as ever, Jude weaves a hilarious and biting tale, scathing about Romania, capitalism and much more.

EEPUS



WED 12 JUN 8:15 PM EV9 **15+**
SAT 15 JUN 6:00 PM RITZ5

USA, France | 2024 | 98 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
 Director: Carson Lund | Screenwriters: Carson Lund, Michael Basta, Nate Fisher | Producers: Carson Lund, David Entin, Gabe Klinger, Tyler Taormina, Michael Basta
 Cast: Keith William Richards, Cliff Blake, Ray Hryb
 Sales Agent: Film Constellation

Straight from Cannes Directors' Fortnight, *Eephus* is a delightful debut about a valedictory game of baseball. A joyous slice of Americana with narration from the great Frederick Wiseman.

Their beloved field about to give way to an imminent construction project, two non-professional teams gather to face each other for the last time. There are a few spectators with varying levels of interest, even a food vendor. But the game is only of great importance to the men playing it (and not always well). As the protracted game progresses, strategic errors are made, the light fades, and drastic action is needed for the game to come to an end. An eephus is a rare baseball pitch appearing to be deceptively innocuous. But fear not: no knowledge of, or indeed interest in, baseball is required for enjoyment of this sublime hangout film.

Festival Guest: Carson Lund

ESSENTIAL TRUTHS OF THE LAKE



SUN 9 JUN 6:00 PM PALC1 18+
TUE 11 JUN 6:00 PM DNT2

Philippines, France, Portugal, Singapore, Italy, Switzerland, UK | 2023 | 213 mins | In English and Tagalog with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Lav Diaz | Producers: Marta Alves, Bianca Balbuena, Bradley Liew, Joaquim Sapinho, Jean-Christophe Simon | Cast: John Lloyd Cruz, Bart Guingona, Hazel Orenco | Sales Agent: Films Boutique

Filipino master Lav Diaz takes on the police procedural, exploring the injustices of his country's recent political history with hypnotic, provocative results.

A detective takes on a cold case, the murder of a young woman 15 years earlier. Recalling Bong Joon-ho's *Memories of Murder*, the investigation becomes as much about the broader sociopolitical landscape as an inquiry into individual culpability. Filipino superstar John Lloyd Cruz reprises his role as Lt. Hermes Papauran from Diaz's previous *When the Waves Are Gone* (SFF 2023), this time investigating a different crime. The director's trademarks are all here: starkly transfixing black-and-white compositions, startling novelistic digressions (including a film-within-a-film faux-documentary introducing the missing woman), and an atmosphere that bristles with bracing dissident anger. As with the filmmaker's best work, it's equally meditative and urgent.

EXPLANATION FOR EVERYTHING
MAGYARÁZAT MINDENRE



WED 12 JUN 8:15 PM EV3 15+
FRI 14 JUN 8:05 PM RITZ5

Hungary, Slovakia | 2023 | 152 mins | In Hungarian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Gábor Reisz | Screenwriter: Gábor Reisz, Éva Schulze | Producer: Júlia Berkes | Cast: Gáspár Adonyi-Walsh, István Znamenák, András Rusznák | Sales Agent: Films Boutique

In this clever satire about the culture wars, a Hungarian student is embroiled in a national scandal when he fails his exams, accidentally becoming a figurehead for the right.

On the brink of his final high school exams, Abel is struggling to focus. His loving parents are supportive but also pressure him to perform well. But Abel is hopelessly in love with his best friend, the studious Janka, and incapable of concentrating. When he freezes during the oral component of the history exam, a Hungarian nationality pin he's absent-mindedly wearing sets off an absurd series of events that come to obsess a nation. Director Gábor Reisz, in expressing deep concern for his bitterly divided country, depicts a scenario that plausibly and frighteningly could take place in many countries in the world.

Festival Guest: Gábor Reisz

EZRA



FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM RITZ5 15+
THU 13 JUN 6:00 PM HOC4
SAT 15 JUN 6:15 PM EV3

USA | 2023 | 100 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Director: Tony Goldwyn | Screenwriter: Tony Spiridakis
Producers: William Horberg, Tony Spiridakis, Jon Kilik, Tony Goldwyn | Cast: Bobby Cannavale, Robert De Niro, Rose Byrne | Australian Distributor: Kismet Movies

Rose Byrne, Bobby Cannavale, Robert De Niro and amazing newcomer William A. Fitzgerald star in the touching and funny tale of a couple and their autistic son. Toronto 2023.

Drawn from the experiences of screenwriter Tony Spiridakis, *Ezra* rings true from the moment we meet this spirited 11-year-old and his parents Max (Cannavale) and Jenna (Byrne). Though they're divorced and have clashing ideas on what's best for their son, Max and Jenna love Ezra with all their hearts. Max is a stand-up comedian – and when an opportunity arises in L.A., he takes Ezra along for a cross-country ride that changes everyone's lives. Spiridakis' beautifully observed script, Tony Goldwyn's sensitive direction and a superb cast – including De Niro as Max's gruff father, plus Whoopi Goldberg, Rainn Wilson and Vera Farmiga – make this a tender, humorous and poignant road movie to remember. Neurodivergent child actor Fitzgerald is sensational in the titular role.

FLATHEAD



WED 12 JUN 6:00 PM EV3 15+
SAT 15 JUN 5:45 PM DNT2

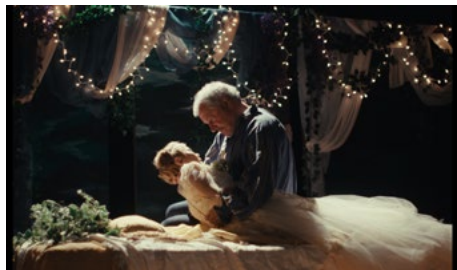
Australia | 2024 | 90 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Jaydon Martin | Producer: Patrick McCabe | Cast: Cass Cumerford, Andrew Wong, Rob Sheehan | Australian Distributor: Bonsai Films

This acclaimed Australian debut combines social realism and an immersive documentary feel to tell the story of an elderly man returning home to Bundaberg on a spiritual quest.

Shot in striking black-and-white, Jaydon Martin's directorial debut is part documentary about day-to-day life in coastal Queensland – with a cast playing themselves – and part dream-like narrative. Cass, a former drug addict whose life has been marked by tragedy, leaves Sydney and heads back to Bundaberg to take stock of his life. Religion helps console him, while drinking and partying help pass the time. Most touching of all is a budding friendship with Andrew, a Chinese-Australian chip-shop owner who is dealing with his own grief. Observational and contemplative, heartwarming and eerie, *Flathead* is a memorable portrait of regional Australia.

Festival Guests: Jaydon Martin and members of the film team

GHOSTLIGHT



FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM HOC5 18+
MON 10 JUN 4:00 PM SLNSW
THU 13 JUN 6:15 PM RITZ5

USA | 2023 | 115 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Directors: Alex Thompson, Kelly O'Sullivan | Screenwriters: Kelly O'Sullivan | Producers: Alex Thompson, Ian Keiser, Pierce Cravens, Chelsea Krant, Alex Wilson, Eddie Linker
Cast: Keith Kupferer, Tara Mullen, Dolly De Leon
Sales Agent: Vendetta Films

A listless construction worker with no acting experience joins a community production of *Romeo and Juliet* in this Sundance charmer, featuring a brilliant supporting performance from Dolly De Leon (*Triangle of Sadness*, SFF 2022).

In this moving ode to art-as-therapy in even the most unlikely and reluctant places, Chicago labourer Dan (a superb Keith Kupferer) is reeling from a tragedy. His inability to articulate his feelings and his flashes of rage are causing trouble at work and home (his wife and daughter are played by Kupferer's real life family). One day, he stumbles into a local theatre, and before long he's playing Romeo – despite not even knowing the plot. Unexpectedly, this most lamentable and low-budget production provides him an emotional outlet he's never had. Dolly De Leon steals scenes as the cranky but kind veteran actor who plays Juliet. Disarmingly low-key and deeply moving, this lovely indie earned raves at Sundance. You'll want to pack tissues.

HE AIN'T HEAVY



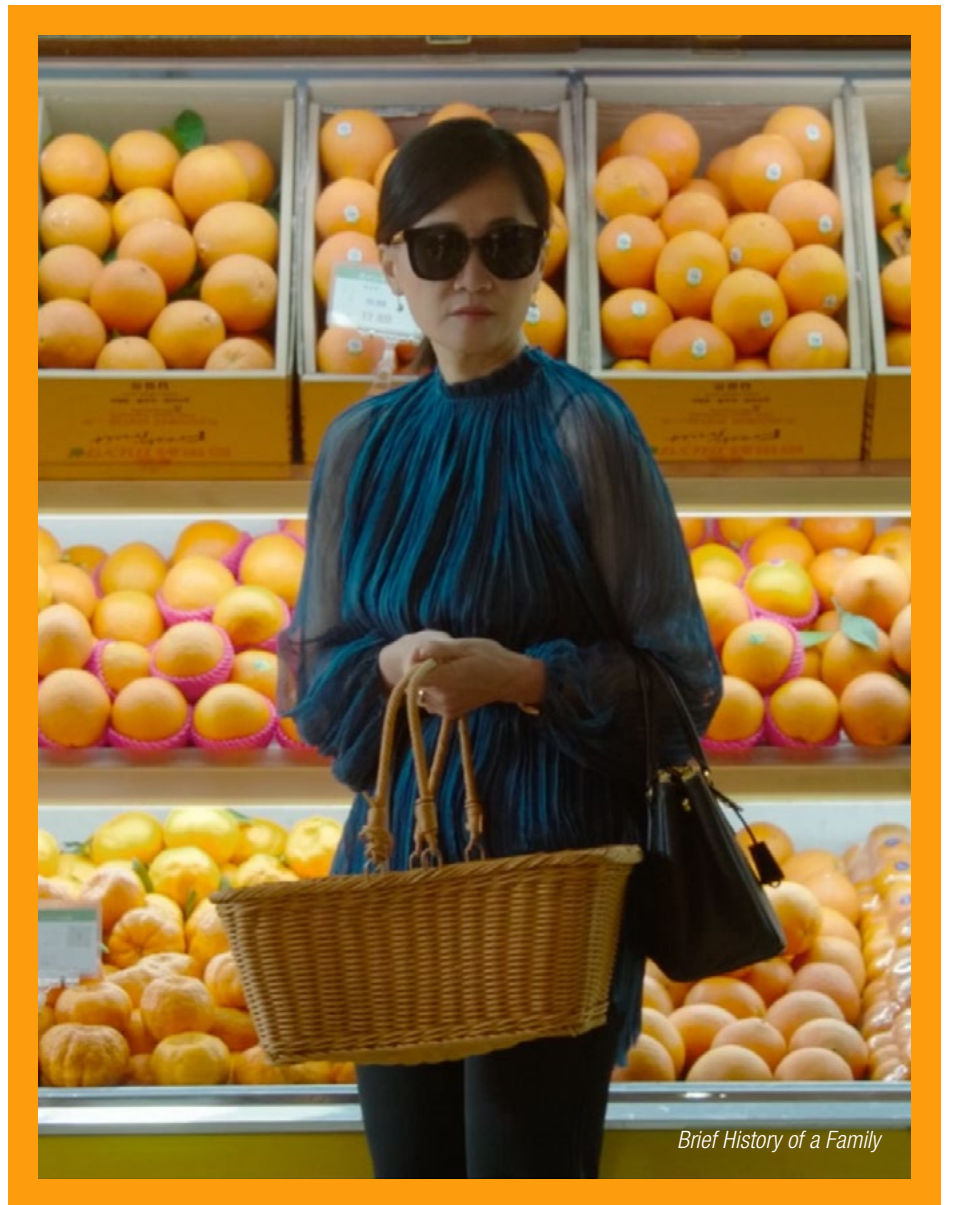
FRI 14 JUN 8:15 PM EV3 18+
SAT 15 JUN 8:00 PM DNT2

Australia | 2024 | 102 mins | In English | World Premiere
Director, Screenwriters: David Vincent Smith | Producer: Jess Parker | Cast: Leila George, Sam Corlett, Greta Scacchi
Australian Distributor: Bonsai Films

Leila George stars, alongside her mother Greta Scacchi, as a young woman so determined to save her drug-addicted brother that she locks him in a room to get clean.

Jade (George) has never been able to travel overseas. She's too worried about her meth-addicted brother Max (Sam Corlett, *Vikings: Valhalla*), always on call to take him to hospital or provide first aid after he's self-harmed. In desperation, she finally confines Max in a room inside the rural house left by their grandmother. But then Jade's mother (Scacchi) arrives, and she's appalled that her son is caged like an animal. What follows is a tense, superbly acted chamber drama. Shot in Western Australia, *He Ain't Heavy* marks an impressive debut from David Vincent Smith, based on his short *I'm Not Hurting You* (SFF 2019).

Festival Guests: David Vincent Smith and members of the film team



Brief History of a Family

HESITATION WOUND

TEREDDÜT çizgisi



FRI 7 JUN 6:15 PM EV3
SUN 9 JUN 8:15 PM DNT3
SAT 15 JUN 5:30 PM PNORT3 **18+**

Türkiye, Romania, France, Spain | 2023 | 84 mins
 In Turkish with English Subtitles

Director, Screenwriter: Selman Nacar | Producers:
 Burak Çevik, Diloy Gülün, Selman Nacar | Cast:
 Tülin Özen, Oğulcan Arman Uslu, Gülçin Kültür Şahin
 Australian Distributor: Arcadia

This taut and engaging Turkish legal thriller follows a criminal lawyer over the course of 24 hours as she deals with a major case, a personal crisis – and a moral dilemma.

Canan (Tülin Özen, superb) is a no-nonsense attorney who spends her days in the courthouse and her nights in the hospital with her gravely ill mother. Her mother's condition is a matter of great contention between Canan and her sister. As her defence of her client comes to its suspenseful conclusion, Canan is faced with an incredibly difficult decision that could have significant consequences for her mother, her client, and even the judge on the case. Director Selman Nacar studied both law and film, and his immaculately paced, gripping and morally complex film is a perfect expression of his dual interests. A hit at festivals all over the world, *Hesitation Wound's* impact will linger long after the final credits.

Screens with *Withered Blossoms*

HOUSE OF THE SEASONS

JANGSON



WED 12 JUN 12:15 PM STATE
SAT 15 JUN 3:15 PM EV5 **15+**

South Korea | 2023 | 121 mins | In Korean and Japanese with English and Korean subtitles
 Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Oh Jung-min | Producers:
 Jang Ji-won, Jeong Joen | Cast: Kang Seung Ho,
 Woo Sangjeon, Son Sook | Sales Agent: Indiestory Inc.

A tofu factory in Daegu, Korea, is the setting for this tender, moving, and funny inter-generational family saga – an award-winning highlight of the Busan International Film Festival.

As summer arrives, the entire Kim clan gathers for the annual ceremony dedicated to the ancestors. As they bicker and argue over cooking methods, the hierarchy quickly becomes clear. When young Seong-jin finally arrives from Seoul, where he's pursuing a career in acting, all attention is diverted to him – the golden grandson expected to continue the family's legacy and take over the tofu factory. But Seong-jin has plans for his future that disrupt the familial order. As the seasons pass by, the family must contemplate their changing world in this extraordinarily confident debut by director Oh Jung-min.

Festival Guest: Oh Jung-min

I SAW THE TV GLOW



WED 5 JUN 6:00 PM DNT3
SAT 8 JUN 6:15 PM EV5
THU 13 JUN 6:15 PM DNT3 **18+**

USA | 2023 | 100 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Jane Schoenbrun | Producers:
 Emma Stone, Ali Herting, Sarah Winshall, Dave McCary,
 Sam Intili | Cast: Justice Smith, Brigitte Lundy-Paine,
 Helena Howard | Australian Distributor:
 Sony Pictures Releasing

Two misfit teens bond over their obsession with a mysterious TV show but have an identity crisis when it's suddenly cancelled, in this Sundance and Berlinale sensation.

With their second feature, Jane Schoenbrun (*We're All Going to the World's Fair*) creates a cryptic, horror-tinged mood piece that's bound to inspire myriad interpretations and a devoted cult following. A singular portrait of adolescent loneliness, gender dysphoria, parasocial relationships and social media fixation, *I Saw the TV Glow* confirms that Schoenbrun is a serious talent. Fans of David Lynch, Gregg Araki and Richard Kelly will revel in this cinematic exploration of the teenage psyche. Striking imagery drifts atop an appropriately dreamy soundtrack featuring Caroline Polachek and Phoebe Bridgers and an original score by Alex G (as well as a supporting role for Limp Bizkit frontman Fred Durst).

IN VITRO



THU 6 JUN 6:30 PM EV5
SAT 8 JUN 8:30 PM RITZ5
SUN 9 JUN 6:30 PM DNT3 **18+**

Australia | 2023 | 89 mins | In English | World Premiere
 Directors: Will Howarth, Tom McKeith | Screenwriters:
 Tom McKeith, Will Howarth, Talia Zucker | Producers:
 Will Howarth, Lisa Shaunessy, Bec Janek | Cast:
 Ashley Zukerman, Talia Zucker, Will Howarth
 Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

Ashley Zukerman (*Succession*) stars in a gripping Australian sci-fi mystery thriller set on a remote cattle farm in the near future.

With cattle production devastated by ecological disasters, Jack (Zukerman) and his wife Layla (Talia Zucker) are conducting biotechnology experiments at their isolated property. While Layla longs for the return of their son from boarding school, Jack carries out research he hopes will save his family from financial ruin. This meticulously written and brilliantly performed feature from Aussie directors Tom McKeith and Will Howarth (*Beast*, SFF 2016) takes unpredictable turns as gloomy skies gather and the couple's relationship begins to strain. Strikingly filmed on the eerily dry Monaro Plains of NSW, *In Vitro* is claustrophobic, suspenseful and scarily believable.

Festival Guests: Tom McKeith, Will Howarth and members of the film team



In Vitro

LA COCINA



WED 5 JUN 6:15 PM RITZ5
SAT 8 JUN 7:30 PM PNORT3
SUN 16 JUN 4:30 PM SLNSW **18+**

Mexico, USA | 2024 | 139 mins | In English and Spanish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Alonso Ruizpalacios | Producers:
 Alonso Ruizpalacios, Gerardo Gatica, Ramiro Ruiz, Ivan Orlic,
 Lauren Mann | Cast: Raúl Briones, Rooney Mara, Anna Diaz
 Local Distributor: Vendetta Films

Rooney Mara and Raúl Briones star in this intense comedic drama set during the hectic lunch rush at a New York restaurant, from Mexican maverick Alonso Ruizpalacios (*A Cop Movie*, SFF 2021).

The Manhattan restaurant The Grill has a capacity of hundreds and a massive international staff to match. Over a very frantic lunch period, cash goes missing from the till. The undocumented cooks are the immediate suspects – Mexican Pedro (Briones) prime amongst them. Charming, rebellious and ambitious, he's in a relationship with American waitress Julia (Mara), who faces a personal crisis of her own. As matters culinary, political and personal clash, things come to boiling point. Brilliant performances, a fervent political message and directorial flair combine in an explosive, provocative film.

MEMORY



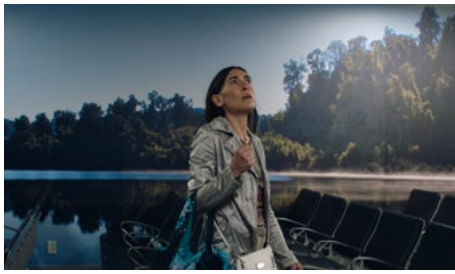
TUE 11 JUN 6:00 PM HOC5
SAT 15 JUN 6:00 PM SLNSW **18+**

Mexico, USA, Chile | 2023 | 113 mins | In English
 Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Michel Franco | Producers:
 Michel Franco, Alex Orlovsky, Eréndira Núñez Larios,
 Duncan Montgomery | Cast: Jessica Chastain,
 Peter Sarsgaard, Merritt Wever | Sales Agent:
 The Match Factory

Peter Sarsgaard won Venice's Best Actor award alongside the faultless Jessica Chastain (*The Forgiven*, SFF 2022) in this intricate New York romance from seasoned festival auteur Michel Franco (*Sundown*).

Chastain plays Sylvia, a single-mother social worker and recovering alcoholic with her life finally in control. However, traumas resurface when she is stalked by Saul (Sarsgaard) – an unwelcome figure from her past who fails to acknowledge his previous behaviour due to his early onset dementia. The incident ignites a companionship between the two, leading to healing and emotional confrontations. Franco's script explores two people grappling with their past – Saul can't remember, and Sylvia wants to forget. Franco's films are not for the fainthearted, but his latest is deeply sensitive and compassionate, carried by pitch-perfect performances.

THE MOON IS UPSIDE DOWN



SAT 8 JUN 6:00 PM DNT1 18+
SUN 9 JUN 6:00 PM RITZ3

New Zealand | 2023 | 100 mins | In English and Russian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Loren Taylor | Producers: Georgina Conder, Philippa Campbell | Cast: Elizabeth Hawthorne, Loren Taylor, Victoria Haralabidou
Australian Distributor: Vendetta Films

With a stellar cast, this funny and poignant NZ romantic drama follows three women at a crossroads in their apparently unconnected lives.

A mail-order bride from Siberia, the lonely wife of a wealthy property investor, and an anaesthetist looking for frisky fun, are the engaging central characters in this sharply observed slice-of-life set around Wellington. Uproariously funny one moment and deeply affecting the next, New Zealand actor-filmmaker Loren Taylor's free-wheeling debut contrasts life's absurdities with our innate desire to form connections, seek happiness and maybe even make some sense of it all. Winner of the Best First Feature prize at Tallinn, it's wonderfully acted by a cast that includes Australian Victoria Haralabidou (*Prosper, The Tourist*), and Taylor's *Eagle vs Shark* co-star Jemaine Clement (*Nude Tuesday*, SFF 2022).

Festival Guests: Loren Taylor and members of the film team

MORE THAN STRANGERS



THU 6 JUN 8:35 PM DNT2 15+
SAT 8 JUN 5:30 PM PNORT3

Germany, Greece | 2023 | 100 mins | In German, English, French and Greek with English subtitles
Australian Premiere
Director: Sylvie Michel | Screenwriters: Sylvie Michel, Maria Teresa Curzio | Producers: Costas Labropoulos, Martin Hampel, Thanassis Karathanos, George Kyriakos
Cast: Cyril Gueï, Léo Daudin, Smaragda Karydi
Production Company: Pallas Film GmbH

Five misfits on a road trip from Berlin to Paris bond and clash, take many detours, and find themselves smuggling a refugee in this comedy-drama with a social conscience.

When a Parisian father-to-be (Cyril Gueï) accepts a freelance job driving four people of different nationalities home from Berlin in an electric vehicle, trouble ensues when one passenger (Léo Daudin) reveals he is a refugee. Transporting refugees across borders is harshly penalized in the EU, and the group faces some uncomfortable choices. Each of the passengers has their own problems to deal with, too. Featuring a great ensemble cast, sharp editing and cinematography, French director Sylvie Michel's modern road movie is both a comic character study and a stinging critique of the marginalization of refugees.

MOTEL DESTINO



FRI 7 JUN 8:15 PM RITZ5 18+
FRI 14 JUN 8:30 PM DNT2

Brazil, France, Germany | 2024 | 112 mins
In Portuguese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Karim Ainouz | Screenwriters: Wislan Esmeraldo, Mauricio Zacharias, Karim Ainouz | Producers: Fabiano Gullane, Caio Gullane, Gabrielle Tana, Michael Weber, Didar Domehri, André Novis, Janaina Bernardes, Viola Fügen, Hélène Théodoly | Cast: Iago Xavier, Nataly Rocha, Fabio Assunção | Sales Agent: The Match Factory

Straight from the Cannes Competition, Karim Ainouz (*Praia Do Futuro*, SFF 2014) fuses crime thriller and unbridled eroticism in this gloriously debauched tropical noir.

A junior in a crime family operating on the coast of Northern Brazil, Heraldo is given the task of punishing a man who owes the family money. Partying the night before the job, he meets a beautiful stranger, oversleeps, and is robbed of his possessions. The job goes south with fatal consequences, and Heraldo is pursued by both his former criminal gang and the police. He takes refuge in a roadside sex hotel, Motel Destino, run by the boorish Elias and his frustrated, beautiful wife Dayana. There's a visceral attraction between Heraldo and Dayana. Alongside regular voyeurism, uncontrollable desire takes hold, along with dreams of liberation, leading to an explosive conclusion.

MY NEW FRIENDS

LES GENS D'À CÔTÉ



SUN 9 JUN 6:00 PM PNORT3 15+
FRI 14 JUN 6:15 PM HOC5

France | 2024 | 85 mins | In French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: André Téchiné | Screenwriters: André Téchiné, Régis de Martrin-Donos | Producers: Sylvie Pialat, Benoît Quainon | Cast: Isabelle Huppert, Nahuel Pérez-Biscayart, Hafsia Herzi | Sales Agent: Pyramide International

A police officer (Isabelle Huppert) learns that her new friend and neighbour is a staunchly anti-police activist in this taut moral tale from French auteur Andre Téchiné (*Being 17*, SFF 2016).

Grieving her recently departed colleague and romantic partner Slimane (Moustapha Mbengue), Huppert's forensics officer initially finds solace in the company of her new neighbours: young teacher Julia (Hafsia Herzi) and her husband Yann (*BPM*'s electric Nahuel Pérez Biscayart). But she soon learns that Yann is under government surveillance for his direct action against the police force, and finds her allegiances tested by their friendship. One of the most celebrated of the generation of filmmakers who emerged after the French New Wave, Téchiné has worked steadily across seven decades specialising in intimate, absorbing chamber dramas. *My New Friends* is no exception, treating hot-button subject matter with characteristic sensitivity.

MY SUNSHINE

BOKU NO OHISAMA



FRI 14 JUN 6:00 PM EV3 ALL AGES
SAT 15 JUN 6:00 PM DNT1

Japan | 2024 | 91 mins | In Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Hiroshi Okuyama | Producers: Toshikazu Nishigaya, Masahiro Handa, Masa Sawada | Cast: Sôsuke Ikematsu, Keitatsu Koshiyama, Kiara Takanashi
Sales Agent: Charades

A stirring Japanese charmer about a boy learning to figure-skate to impress his crush. Direct from Cannes Un Certain Regard by SFF alumnus Hiroshi Okuyama (*Jesus*, SFF 2019).

Living on a remote, wintry island, a young boy with a stutter, Takuya (Keitatsu Koshiyama), develops a crush on a graceful figure-skater in training, Sakura (Kiara Takanashi). Clumsy and without the coordination required to excel in sport (he's bad at both baseball and ice hockey), Takuya nevertheless takes up skating to impress her. He captures the attention of Sakura's coach, Mr. Arakawa (Sôsuke Ikematsu), who begins mentoring him on the side. Arakawa pairs the two for an upcoming competition, but jealousy and Arakawa's secret soon fractures the trio's bond. Okuyama's fluid camera and lighting dances with his characters, adding a tremendous amount of grace and warmth to this nuanced tale.

Festival Guest: Hiroshi Okuyama

ONE SECOND AHEAD, ONE SECOND BEHIND

ICHIBYO – SAKI NO KARE



WED 5 JUN 8:15 PM DNT3 15+
SUN 9 JUN 5:45 PM EV11

Japan | 2023 | 119 mins | In Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Nobuhiro Yamashita | Screenwriter: Kankurô Kudô | Producers: Hiroyuki Negishi, Yuji Sadai
Cast: Masaki Okada, Kaya Kiyohara, Rion Fukumuro,
Sales Agent: Bitters End, Inc.

In this fantastical rom-com hit from Japan, two lonely souls are quite literally a step out of time in each direction and will need each other to unlock the mystery of a lost day.

Optimistic postal worker Hajime (Masaki Okada from *Drive My Car*, SFF 2021) – known to his failed dates as “disappointing handsome guy” – lives life a little differently. Through a supernatural quirk, he's one second ahead of everyone around him! When life rushes past so quick that he loses an entire day, Hajime goes hunting for those mysterious lost hours. His quest leads him to shy photographer Reika, a woman who lives life one second behind everybody else. Adapted from Taiwanese hit *My Missing Valentine*, Japanese director Nobuhiro Yamashita weaves a high concept romance that marries the mundane with the magical, full of temporal twists and charmingly awkward yearning.

PARADISE



THU 13 JUN 8:30 PM EV11 18+
SAT 15 JUN 6:15 PM DNT3

India, Sri Lanka | 2023 | 93 mins | In English, Sinhala, Tamil, Malayalam and Hindi with English subtitles
Australian Premiere
Director: Prasanna Vithanage | Screenwriters: Anushka Senanayake, Prasanna Vithanage | Producer: Anto Chittilappilly | Cast: Roshan Mathew, Darshana Rajendran, Shyam Fernando | Festival Contact: Prasanna Vithanage

A holidaying couple is caught up in Sri Lanka's 2022 descent into economic, political and social chaos. Winner of the prestigious Kim Jiseok Award at Busan, 2023.

An apparently happy marriage is placed under the microscope in this potent drama by renowned Sri Lankan filmmaker Prasanna Vithanage. While Sri Lanka boils over in rage and protest at the collapse of its economy, Indian couple Kesav and Amritha are celebrating their wedding anniversary with a tour of the island nation's magnificent ancient sites. After being robbed at knifepoint, the couple turn to Sri Lanka's under-resourced police force, with life-changing consequences. Transporting and tense, *Paradise* is a gripping examination of human relationships in a time of crisis, as danger escalates and dark truths come to light.

Festival Guest: Prasanna Vithanage

PEPE



THU 6 JUN 12:15 PM STATE 15+
FRI 7 JUN 8:30 PM DNT1
SUN 9 JUN 8:20 PM EV5

Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Namibia 2024 | 122 mins | In Afrikaans, German, Spanish and Mbukushu with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias
Producers: Tanya Valette, Pablo Lozano, Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias | Cast: Fared Matjila, Shifafure Faustinus, Jhon Narváez | Festival Contact: Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias

The true-ish story of Pepe the hippo who broke free of Pablo Escobar's private zoo, featuring deeply philosophical narration from the (multi-lingual) hippo himself. Winner, Silver Bear, Berlinale.

In one of many quixotic decisions, drug lord Pablo Escobar illegally imported a number of hippopotamuses for his private zoo in Colombia. Pepe is the descendant of these pioneer “cocaine hippos”, becoming the first African hippo to ever roam the Americas after breaking free. Alongside his story, the film explores the lives and stories of people far afield – from a Colombian fisherman and his irate wife to a Namibian tour guide. Technically audacious, playfully integrating fiction and non-fiction and in various media, *Pepe* is quite unlike any film you'll see this year.

Festival Guest: Nelson Carlo de los Santos Arias

PROBLEMISTA



FRI 7 JUN 6:30 PM EV5 15+
MON 10 JUN 6:15 PM DNT1
SAT 15 JUN 8:30 PM RITZ5

USA | 2023 | 104 mins | In English
 Director, Screenwriter: Julio Torres | Producers: Ali Herting, Julio Torres, Emma Stone, Dave McCary | Cast: Julio Torres, Tilda Swinton, RZA | Australian Distributor: Park Circus

A queer, quirky farce written, directed by, and starring surrealist comedian Julio Torres as a man avoiding deportation by working for an eccentric art collector (a witty and wacky Tilda Swinton).

Torres (*Los Espookys*) plays himself as Alejandro, a zany, softly spoken Salvadoran chasing his lifelong dream of being a toy designer in the Big Apple. When he faces deportation after losing his job, he finds a new role as a PA to art-world doyenne and dragon lady Elizabeth (Swinton). Beside handling her unrelenting demands, Alejandro must also navigate the Kafkaesque bureaucratic nightmare that is the US immigration system before time runs out. Torres' debut blends his trademark absurdist comedy with surreal visual flair and satirical commentary, with cameos from rapper RZA, Greta Lee (*Past Lives*, SFF 2023), and narration from the iconic Isabella Rossellini.

SEX



THU 6 JUN 6:30 PM RITZ5 15+
SAT 8 JUN 5:30 PM DNT3

Norway | 2024 | 125 mins | In Norwegian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Dag Johan Haugerud
 Producers: Yngve Sæther, Hege Hauff Hvattum | Cast: Jan Gunnar Røise, Thorbjørn Harr, Siri Forberg | Sales Agent: M-Appeal World Sales

When a modern-day chimneysweep has sex with a man whose chimney he's cleaning, then tells his wife and his colleague, each is forced to question the quirks of sexuality.

One of the hits of Berlinale 2024, *Sex* climbs atop the high-rises of a Norwegian city to survey the quizzical contemporary landscape of sex, in which monogamy and fluidity make for uneasy bedfellows. Two married and ostensibly heterosexual friends are unmoored when one of them sleeps with a man and the other begins to question the recurring dreams he's been having, in which David Bowie gazes at him longingly. Dag Johan Haugerud's film is funny but also sincere and compassionate, playing out in a series of long, winding, highly articulate conversations. They're captured by a camera that is fittingly unrestricted, floating between characters mid-scene.

Festival Guest: Jan Gunnar Røise

RAPTURE

RIMDOGITANGA



FRI 14 JUN 6:00 PM DNT3 15+
SUN 16 JUN 6:00 PM EV11

India, China, Switzerland, Netherlands, Qatar | 2023
 127 mins | In Garo with English subtitles
 Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Dominic M Sangma
 Producers: Sun Li, Anupama Rangchar, Harsh Agarwal, Dominic M Sangma, Xu Jianshang, Stephen Zacharias, Eva Gunme R. Marak, Aditya Grover
 Cast: Torikhu A. Sangma, Handam R. Marak, Balsrame A. Sangma | Production Company: Anna Films

In this visually striking drama, a village in India's northeast descends into paranoia when a child goes missing and the local churchman prophesies an apocalypse.

Opening with an indelible scene as the villagers come together to gather cicadas at night, *Rapture* looks incisively at a small community beginning to fray, potentially a microcosm for societies the world over. When a boy disappears, wild rumours consume the inhabitants, with the blame laid squarely on mysterious outsiders. Meanwhile, the village priest speaks of looming darkness, and urges the donation of considerable funds in exchange for his protection. Director Dominic M Sangma expertly ramps up the tension while gradually revealing more about the village and its mysteries – before introducing a spectacular magic realist diversion. A singular film from India, *Rapture* reveals an extraordinary talent in Sangma.

Festival Guest: Dominic M. Sangma

SHAMBHALA



THU 13 JUN 11:50 AM STATE 15+
SAT 15 JUN 2:30 PM HOC5
SUN 16 JUN 3:00 PM EV3

Nepal, Norway, France, Hong Kong, Türkiye, Taiwan, USA, Qatar | 2024 | 150 mins | In Nepalese and Tibetan with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Producer: Min Bahadur Bham | Screenwriters: Min Bahadur Bham, Abinash Bikram Shah | Cast: Thinley Lhamo, Sonam Topden, Tenzin Dalha
 Australian Distributor: Arcadia

A woman embarks on a physical and spiritual journey across the Himalayas to find her husband, in this magnificently shot Nepalese odyssey selected for Berlinale 2024.

In this remote community, traditions are undimmed by the 21st century, and the practice of polyandry (marriage of a woman to two or more men at the same time) continues. Pema (Thinley Lhamo, impressive) embraces this, marrying Tashi and his two younger brothers: Karma, a monk, and schoolboy Dawa. The household is content – until Tashi fails to return from a trade trip to Lhasa. The heavily pregnant Pema sets out across the mountains to find him. The formidable trek ultimately becomes a spiritual odyssey as she seeks to find her *shambhala*, or place of tranquility.

Festival Guest: Min Bahadur Bham

THE RYE HORN

O CORNO



WED 5 JUN 6:30 PM PNORT3 15+
THU 6 JUN 8:35 PM HOC5

Spain, Portugal, Belgium | 2023 | 105 mins
 In Spanish, Galician and Portuguese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Jaione Camborda | Producers: Jaione Camborda, Andrea Vázquez, María Zamora
 Cast: Janet Novás, Carla Rivas, Siobhan Fernandes
 Sales Agent: Films Boutique

A rural Galician midwife flees after an illegal abortion goes awry in this elemental, visually ravishing exploration of bodies, motherhood and female solidarity. Winner, Best Film at San Sebastián

In 1970s rural Galicia, the beauty of the golden rye fields belies a hidden desperation. Removed from modern medicine and steeped in strict social mores, the women of an isolated fishing village give birth in extreme agony. Some are compelled to pluck a fungus from the swaying rye for use in infusions that induce abortions. Midwife María spends her time helping mothers-to-be, even as it draws suspicion from the community. When disaster strikes, María must escape to Portugal via an old smugglers' route, dependent on the kindness of other women. Director Jaione Camborda's unsparing but vividly immersive film won the top prize at the San Sebastián International Film Festival.

SOMETHING LIKE AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY



MON 10 JUN 4:00 PM EV11 15+
SAT 15 JUN 6:10 PM PALC1

Bangladesh | 2023 | 85 mins | In Bengali with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director: Mostofa Sarwar Farooki | Screenwriters: Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, Nusrat Imrose Tisha
 Producer: Redoan Rony | Cast: Nusrat Imrose Tisha, Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, Monowar Hossain Dipjol
 Production Company: Chabial

SFF regular Mostofa Sarwar Farooki (*Television*, SFF 2013) stars alongside his wife, Nusrat Imrose Tisha, in a romantic thriller that's his most personal film to date. Busan selected.

The director and his wife play versions of themselves – Farooki is Fahan, a famous Bangladeshi filmmaker, while Tisha plays Tithi, one of the country's most prominent actors. In this traditional society, they face increasingly forceful queries about their childlessness despite years of marriage. Eventually Tithi falls pregnant; what follows is a time of closeness and love. One night, as Tithi is on the verge of giving birth, Fahan goes off to investigate a disturbance in their neighbourhood – and fails to return. This riveting exploration of power becomes a thriller in which the personal is political and vice versa, and Farooki showcases Bangladesh with near-tactile immediacy.

SASQUATCH SUNSET



TUE 11 JUN 6:45 PM EV9 15+
FRI 14 JUN 6:15 PM RITZ5

USA | 2024 | 88 mins | No Dialogue | Australian Premiere
 Directors: Nathan Zellner, David Zellner | Screenwriter: David Zellner | Producers: Nathan Zellner, David Zellner, Lars Knudsen, George Rush, Tyler Campellone | Cast: Jesse Eisenberg, Riley Keough, Christophe Zajac-Denek
 Sales Agent: Umbrella Entertainment

Witness a wild, epic, hilarious and surprisingly moving year in the life of a Sasquatch family, as they search for more of their own kind across a vast hinterland. A jaw-dropping hit at Sundance 2024.

The latest ride from the Zellner brothers (*Kumiko, The Treasure Hunter*, SFF 2014) takes place somewhere in the mountains of the Pacific Northwest, following a family of Sasquatches — the creatures also known as Bigfoots. Brilliantly nuanced performances by unrecognisable Riley Keough and Jesse Eisenberg bring the apelike creatures to life with grunts, gestures and other (and we mean all other) nonverbal means. The Sasquatches forage for food, build primitive shelters, and mate amid stunning natural beauty. But after tragedy strikes, an unsettling, even apocalyptic mood takes over – and the family makes a shocking discovery that changes everything. Funny and provocative, disturbing but oddly moving, this is a visionary film like no other.

STRESS POSITIONS



SAT 8 JUN 8:30 PM DNT1 18+
SUN 9 JUN 6:00 PM EV5

USA | 2023 | 95 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Theda Hammel | Producers: John Early, Brad Becker-Parton, Allie Jane Compton, Greg Nobile, Stephanie Roush | Cast: Theda Hammel, John Early, Qaheer Harhash | Sales Agent: Neon

This hilariously sharp Sundance comedy of (queer) errors, set during New York lockdowns and starring John Early (*Search Party*), takes aim at identity politics and millennial posturing.

It's summer 2020, and nerves are fraying in the heat as gay divorcee Terry (Early) squats in his ex's Brooklyn brownstone. Armed with disinfectant spray, Terry is at the ready to fend off house callers such as his best friend Karla, who yearns to escape the monotony of isolation and has developed a keen interest in Terry's 19-year-old Moroccan model nephew Bahlul (Qaheer Harhash). Director Theda Hammel's relatable and joyfully chaotic debut film captures the information overload of modern life, tackling everything from gender to surveillance to TikTok in a wickedly amusing COVID-era cocktail.

Festival Guest: Theda Hammel

SUSPENDED TIME

HORS DU TEMPS



SUN 9 JUN 8:30 PM RITZ5 15+
 MON 10 JUN 6:00 PM HOC5
 FRI 14 JUN 8:40 PM PNORT3

France | 2024 | 105 mins | In French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Olivier Assayas | Producers: Olivier Delbosc, Olivier Assayas | Cast: Vincent Macaigne, Nine D'Urso, Micha Lescot | Sales Agent: Playtime

Olivier Assayas (*Irma Vep*, SFF 1997; *Personal Shopper*) returns with a delightful semi-autobiographical film about art, memory, and love in the time of COVID. The director's most personal film yet.

As the world goes into COVID lockdown, film director Paul (Vincent Macaigne) and his music journalist brother Etienne (Micha Lescot) take refuge in their childhood home along with their respective partners. In this idyllic countryside home, filled with familiar objects, the brothers must negotiate living together again as the world beyond the house becomes increasingly unstable. Assayas himself narrates, based on his own diary, reflecting on his childhood, his relationship with his intellectual parents, and his deep connection to his childhood home. The result is playful, whimsical, filled with crêpes and charm.

THELMA



SUN 9 JUN 6:15 PM RITZ5 15+
 THU 13 JUN 9:30 AM STATE

USA | 2024 | 97 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Josh Margolin | Producers: Zoë Worth, Chris Kaye, Nicholas Weinstock, Benjamin Simpson, Viviana Vezzani, Karl Spoerri
 Cast: June Squibb, Fred Hechinger, Richard Roundtree
 Production Company: Bandwagon

June Squibb is priceless as a 93-year-old on the trail of crooks who scammed her. This funny and poignant winner has charmed audiences everywhere since its 2024 Sundance premiere.

Actor-filmmaker Josh Margolin brings us an unexpected and delightful new action heroine in Thelma Post. Oscar nominee Squibb (*Nebraska*, 2013) is simply irresistible as the oldest who hops on her mobility scooter and zooms across L.A. in search of justice. Margolin's spot-on screenplay is packed with zingy dialogue and affecting reflections on what it means to grow old. But there's no syrupy sentimentality here: Thelma is far too busy and determined for that! A dream cast includes Parker Posey, Malcom McDowell and blaxploitation legend Richard Roundtree (*Shaft*, 1971), who gives his final and arguably greatest performance as Thelma's loyal pal Ben. Their dynamic duo act is one for the ages – and the aged.

Screens with *Of the Last Reel In Front of You*

TOLL

PEDÁGIO



MON 10 JUN 8:00 PM DNT2 18+
 SAT 15 JUN 8:20 PM EV3

Brazil, Portugal | 2023 | 101 mins | In Portuguese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Carolina Markowicz | Producer: Luís Urbano, Bianca Villar, Fernando Fraiha, Karen Castanho, Sandro Aguilar | Cast: Maeve Jinkings, Kauan Alvarenga, Thomás Aquino | Sales Agent: Luxbox

A Brazilian single mother and tollbooth attendant team with local criminals to fund gay conversion therapy for her teenage son, in this tensely unpredictable and slyly satirical crime drama.

The mists of Cubatão provides an aptly murky backdrop for this morally complex tale by Brazilian filmmaker Carolina Markowicz (*Charcoal*). Maeve Jinkings (*Aquarius*, SFF 2016) is magnetic as Suellen, a motorway tollbooth attendant worried about what the future holds for her openly gay son Tiquinho (charismatic newcomer Kauan Alvarenga). Suellen thinks conversion therapy might be the answer, but paying for it on her meagre wages is impossible. What follows reveals a country in a rapid state of social change, and Markowicz skilfully ratchets up the tension as Suellen becomes an accomplice to highway robbery and events spin out of her control.

UNICORNS



WED 5 JUN 8:30 PM DNT1 18+
 SAT 8 JUN 6:00 PM RITZ5

UK, USA, Sweden | 2023 | 119 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

Directors: Sally El Hosaini, James Krishna Floyd
 Screenwriters: James Krishna Floyd | Producers: Philip Herd, Christa Workman, Bill Pohlrad, Kim Roth, Trudie Styler, Celine Rattray | Cast: Ben Hardy, Jason Patel, Hannah Onslow | Sales Agent: Protagonist Pictures

A stirring queer romance, set in the Gaysian scene of London, between an effervescent drag queen and a questioning mechanic from the tough streets of Essex. Toronto and London selected.

From directors Sally El Hosaini and James Krishna Floyd – an actor who starred in El Hosaini's *My Brother The Devil* (SFF 2012). Single parent Luke (a rugged but sweet Ben Hardy, *Bohemian Rhapsody*) stumbles into a queer Diwali party at the back of an Indian restaurant one night. He becomes enamoured by the seductive performance of drag queen, Aysha (a stunning performance from newcomer Jason Patel) – pronouns are "icon and legend." After a first encounter, Aysha offers Luke money to become her personal driver for gigs. Their chemistry is infectious as the two develop an unlikely romance, all the while navigating social and cultural expectations.

VENI VIDI VICI



THU 6 JUN 8:30 PM EV3 18+
 SAT 8 JUN 8:45 PM DNT3

Austria | 2024 | 85 mins | In German with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Directors: Daniel Hoesl, Julia Niemann | Screenwriter: Daniel Hoesl | Producer: Ulrich Seidl | Cast: Laurence Rupp, Ursina Lardi, Olivia Goschler | Sales Agent: Magnify

The uber-rich hunt human beings for sport in this blackly comic satire produced by cinema's reigning king of the grotesque, Austrian auteur Ulrich Seidl (*Rimini*, SFF 2022).

How does the man who has everything find new ways to entertain himself? In between the helicopter rides and corporate takeovers, why not squeeze in the odd murder? Directors Daniel Hoesl (*Soldate Jeannette*, SFF 2013) and Julia Niemann (*Davos*) continue to explore the gulf between the haves and have-nots in this mordantly funny descent into the depraved excesses of the wealthy. The twist in *Veni Vidi Vici* is that the rich don't even try to hide their crimes – politicians and journalists just look the other way. This no-holds-barred satire works thanks to a fully committed cast delivering wickedly deadpan performances against the carnage.

Festival Guests: Daniel Hoesl and Julia Niemann

WOMAN OF...

KOBIETA Z...



THU 6 JUN 6:00 PM DNT2 18+
 TUE 11 JUN 6:30 PM PNORT3

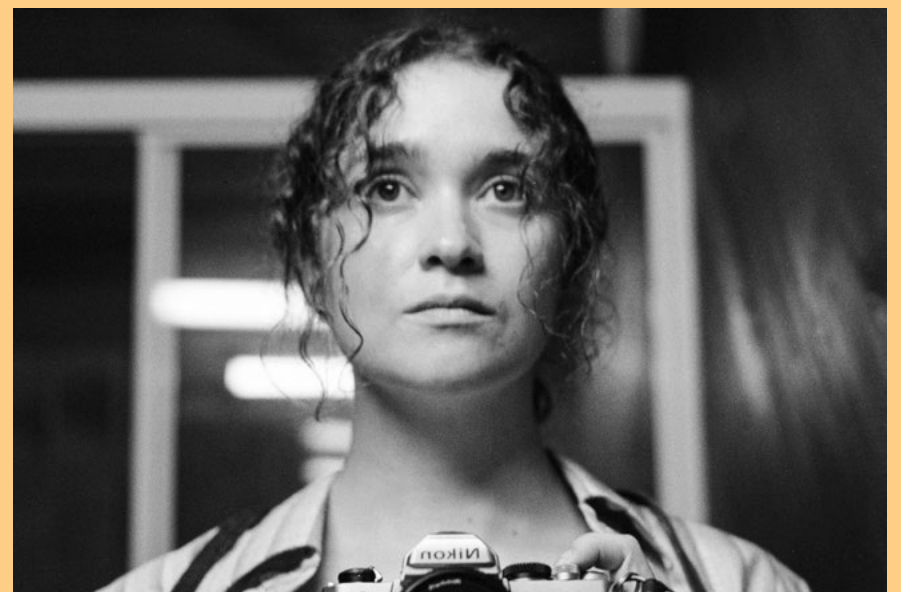
Poland, Sweden | 2023 | 132 mins | In Polish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Directors, Screenwriters: Michał Englert, Małgorzata Szumowska | Producers: Klaudia Śmieja-Rostworowska, Małgorzata Szumowska, Michał Englert, Bogna Szewczyk-Skupień, Katarzyna Jordan-Kulczyk, Gregory Jankilevitch | Cast: Małgorzata Hajewska-Krzysztofik, Joanna Kulig, Bogumila Bajor | Sales Agent: Memento Films

A decades-spanning epic about a woman transitioning in contemporary Poland. Venice Golden Lion nominee from SFF alumni Małgorzata Szumowska and Michał Englert (*Never Gonna Snow Again*, SFF 2021).

Woman Of... traces 45 years in the life of Aniela (an exhilarating Małgorzata Hajewska-Krzysztofik) from her youth in the 1980s. Living as a man, she falls in love with the flirtatious Iza (Joanna Kulig, *Cold War* SFF 2018) and marries. Subsequently, Aniela experiences body dysmorphia and so must navigate the oppressive world of conservative Poland. Entering the 21st century, Aniela openly comes out, but transphobia remains ever present in her marriage and career. The delicate direction and the camerawork from DP-director Englert captures the triumphs as much as hardships in this sensitive and challenging tale, charting the lack of gender recognition in Polish law to the present day.

THE BOX SET

EXPOSURE: EPISODES 1-6



SAT 15 JUN 6:30 PM EV9 18+

Australia | 2024 | 156 mins | In English | World Premiere
 Director: Bonnie Moir | Screenwriter: Lucy Coleman | Producer: Nicole O'Donohue | Cast: Alice Englert, Mia Artemis, Thomas Weatherall | Production Company: Thirdborn. A Stan Original Series

Alice Englert stars in all six thrilling episodes of this atmospheric new mystery series, executive produced by Justin Kurzel (*Snowtown*, *Nitram*).

Jacs (Alice Englert), an up-and-coming photographer, is coming to terms with the death of Kel (Mia Artemis), her closest friend. Grief-stricken, she becomes consumed with the details surrounding Kel's death, convinced she suffered at the hands of a man. Jacs' search for the truth is turbulent and at times confronting as she struggles to process present-day grief whilst reckoning with the past. This is a one-off opportunity to see this exceptional series on the big screen alongside cast and crew including producers Nicole O'Donohue (*The Daughter*, SFF 2015), Shaun Grant and Justin Kurzel, and actors Alice Englert, Sean Keenan, and Essie Davis.

Festival Guests: Bonnie Moir and members of the film team



Balomania



Black Box Diaries



Copa '71



The Cats of Gokogu Shrine

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARIES

From the inspiring to the illuminating – the remarkable true stories in the International Documentary line-up have to be seen to be believed. These films represent the very best of non-fiction filmmaking from around the world.

AGENT OF HAPPINESS



FRI 14 JUN 10:00 AM STATE 15+
SAT 15 JUN 4:00 PM EV3
SUN 16 JUN 2:00 PM DNT1

Bhutan, Hungary | 2024 | 94 mins | In Dzongkha and Nepali with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Directors: Arun Bhattarai, Dorottya Zurbó | Producers: Arun Bhattarai, Noémi Veronika Szakonyi, Máté Artur Vincze
Australian Distributor: Vendetta Films

An agent for Bhutan's Ministry of Gross National Happiness criss-crosses the country measuring people's happiness, while searching for his own. Sundance selected.

Each year, Bhutan measures the nation's happiness levels to guide government policy. But collecting the data can be quite a challenge, involving mountainous treks and abundant questions. The collection agents take it in their stride, cheerfully surveying residents about their livestock, households and contentment levels. Happiness for some is food in the cupboard, or a new tractor. But for one of the agents, who lives with his elderly mother, happiness is tied to his hopes for a wife and passport – problematic because of his Nepali heritage. Bhutanese director-cinematographer Arun Bhattarai and his Hungarian co-director Dorottya Zurbó explore the very idea of happiness in this endearingly tender film.

Festival Guest: Arun Bhattarai

AMONG THE WOLVES

L'AFFÛT AUX LOUPS



SUN 9 JUN 2:15 PM PALC1 ALL AGES
SUN 16 JUN 2:15 PM PALC1

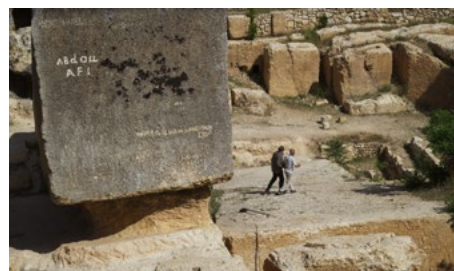
France, Belgium | 2023 | 81 mins | In French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Directors: Tanguy Dumortier, Olivier Larrey | Screenwriters: Tanguy Dumortier, Olivier Larrey, Marguerite d'Ollone, Yves Fagniar | Producers: Henri de Gerlache, Nicolas Zunino, Nicolas Cennac | Sales Agent: Taskovski Films

An immersive wilderness experience filmed near the Finnish-Russian border, where a photographer and a painter wait, watch, and listen for an elusive wolf pack.

Two men, French artist Yves Fagniar and Belgian wildlife photographer Olivier Larrey, tramp through the frozen forest to a lookout hut. There they will remain, quiet and invisible, day and night until the wolf pack emerges – revelling in the beauty of the moment. The friends pass the time between these remarkable sightings by photographing the snowy landscape and its resident crows, and by sketching the changing light. Transfixed, the pair return over the seasons, capturing the life of the wolf pack on film and paper. A strikingly beautiful documentary permeated with a sense of wonder.

Screens with *The Waiting*

ARCHITECTON



THU 6 JUN 6:15 PM EV3 ALL AGES
SUN 9 JUN 6:15 PM DNT3
FRI 14 JUN 8:15 PM PALC1

Germany, France, USA | 2024 | 98 mins | In English and Italian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Victor Kossakovsky
Producer: Heino Deckert | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

Award-winning filmmaker Victor Kossakovsky's striking follow-up to *Gunda* focuses on the built environment and its shift from rock to concrete. Selected Berlinale 2024.

This essay-like film features some of the most dramatic footage you're likely to see this Festival, as the camera swoops through ruined buildings and streams of rock tumble slow-mo down the screen. As the dust clears and the camera retreats, you're left to contemplate the nature of our relationship with building materials old and new. Alongside these ravishing images, we meet Italian architect and theorist Michele De Lucchi as he supervises the construction of a stone circle in his rain-swept garden. Another fascinating, immersive film in Russian director Kossakovsky's impressive canon (*jVivan Las Antipodas!*, SFF 2012).

BALOMANIA



THU 6 JUN 6:15 PM DNT3 15+
SAT 15 JUN 2:00 PM EV3

Denmark, Spain | 2024 | 93 mins | In Portuguese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Sissel Morell Dargis | Producers: Jesper Jack, Carles Bruguera, Marieke van den Bersselaar, Marie Schmidt Olesen | Sales Agent: Cargo Film Releasing

A thriller-like ascent into the secret world of *baloeiros*, the *favela* men who build spectacular illegal hot air balloons and launch them defiantly into Brazil's skies. CPH:DOX selected.

Fanatically dedicated to their outlawed craft, the *baloeiros* spend years glueing together tissue paper and creating incredible, multi-hued designs, often featuring portraits of their heroes. They compete against each other to build the biggest, most spectacular balloons. It's a seriously macho world – and secretive too, because the *baloeiros* are pursued by the authorities, who see their activities as dangerous and criminal. Which makes it all the more surprising that a female filmmaker was able to enter their world. It took years for Danish-Spanish director Sissel Dargis Morell to gain their trust. But her doggedness paid off, and the result is gripping, spectacular and infectious.

THE BATTLE FOR LAIKIPIA 

TUE 11 JUN 6:30 PM DNT3 15+
SUN 16 JUN 8:30 PM DNT2

Kenya, USA, Greece | 2024 | 94 mins | In Samburu, English and Swahili with English subtitles
Australian Premiere
Directors: Daphne Matziaraki, Peter Murimi | Producers: Toni Kamau, Daphne Matziaraki | Sales Agent: MetFilm Sales

A powerful film set in Kenya's spectacular Laikipia region, home to traditional herders, wildlife conservationists, and white pastoralists; a place where drought, politics and colonial history collide.

Samburu cattle herders have lived in the region for centuries. Many white landholders were born and raised here. But, after months without rain, once amicable societal relationships are fracturing. In the past, Indigenous herders would have roamed far seeking food and water. But white landholders have erected fences across traditional grazing routes and employed armed guards to protect their property. As the drought deepens and election rhetoric fires up the community, tension escalates. Over five years, Kenyan director Peter Murimi and Greek filmmaker-journalist Daphne Matziaraki skilfully documented this complex, increasingly violent situation, with unresolved colonial legacy meeting climate change head on.

BLACK BOX DIARIES



THU 6 JUN 8:15 PM DNT3 18+
SUN 9 JUN 12:45 PM EV11

Japan, UK, USA | 2024 | 102 mins | In Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Shiori Itō | Screenwriters: Shiori Itō, Hanna Aqvilin, Eric Nyari | Sales Agent: Dogwoof

Journalist Shiori Itō fights to bring her high-profile rapist to justice in this Sundance-selected first-person documentary exposing outdated gender politics.

When Shiori told the police that she was sexually assaulted by a powerful media figure, the authorities decided not to pursue the case. Her parents also discouraged her, knowing their daughter would be stigmatised. Nevertheless, Shiori decided to go public, and was subsequently slandered and forced into hiding. Bravely, she continued her own investigation, exposing Japan's outdated judicial system and patriarchal norms, writing a bestselling book, and eventually directing this film. Shiori's raw and courageous documentary echoes sexual assault cases in our own backyard and makes for timely and essential viewing.

Festival Guest: Shiori Ito

BLACK SNOW 

MON 10 JUN 5:30 PM DNT3 15+
SAT 15 JUN 2:00 PM PALC1

Denmark, USA | 2024 | 100 mins | In Russian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Alina Simone | Producer: Kirstine Barfod, Alina Simone | Sales Agent: Cinephil

An award winning, inspiring portrait of a Siberian eco-activist, dubbed the 'Erin Brockovich of Russia', as she embarks on a crusade to clean up her region's polluted environment.

Natalia Zubkova, courageous citizen journalist and mother of three, lives in the remote mining town of Kiselyovsk. In an area reliant on coal, no one wants to talk about the obvious pollution – including all the dark snow. Over time, her campaign uncovers the true extent of the environmental disaster and its impact on her family's health. When an abandoned mine catches fire and toxic gas seeps into local homes, Zubkova's video footage goes viral. Her activism inevitably raises the ire of the Russian authorities, and Zubkova faces a tough decision: to stay or leave. Winner of CPH:DOX's F:ACT Award 2024.

Screens with *Grove of Giants*

THE BONES



SAT 8 JUN 4:00 PM EV3 ALL AGES
MON 10 JUN 4:15 PM EV3

Canada, Germany | 2024 | 98 mins | In English, French and Mongolian with English subtitles
Australian Premiere
Director: Jeremy Xido | Screenwriters: Jeremy Xido, Nick Taylor, Eamonn O'Connor | Producer: Ina Fichman
Sales Agent: Dogwoof

Take a prehistoric plunge into the high-stakes fossil trade, where dinosaur bones are in big demand and palaeontology is losing out to deep-pocket private collectors. CPH:DOX selected.

From Mongolia to Montana, dedicated scientists trawl the ground to understand the past and future of our climate-change impacted planet. Meanwhile, Gobi Desert skull hunters recklessly destroy precious sites. *The Bones* is full of unforgettable characters: one palaeontologist haggles over discoveries with Saharan landowners, while over in Montana, Jack Horner (a *Jurassic Park* advisor) faces stiff competition for anything T-Rex-related. This dusty, hard-scrabble world is a far cry from the Parisian auction house where a giant triceratops sells for 6.6 million euros. Exploring the intersection of science and capitalism, *The Bones* is a highly entertaining and cinematic feast directed by SFF alum Jeremy Xido.

THE CATS OF GOKOGU SHRINE
GOKŌGU NO NEKO

FRI 7 JUN 10:00 AM STATE ALL AGES
SAT 8 JUN 4:30 PM PALC1
SUN 9 JUN 1:15 PM DNT1

Japan, USA | 2024 | 119 mins | In Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Kazuhiro Soda | Producers: Kazuhiro Soda, Kiyoko Kashiwagi | Sales Agent: Chinese Shadows

An ancient Shinto shrine in a traditional Japanese village, home to dozens of street cats, is the timeless setting for this meditative observational documentary selected for Berlinale 2024.

Kazuhiro Soda's latest film is set in the region where he also filmed *Oyster Factory* (SFF 2016) and *Inland Sea* (SFF 2018). It's a mesmerizingly beautiful location for this tale of feline-human interaction. Tabbies, ginger, calicos, and other breeds lounge around the 'Cat Shrine' receiving food from visitors. The community is largely tolerant, but the volume of cats and people is beginning to intrude on the serenity of this spiritual environment and a new approach is needed. Soda lived on the island for years, and his intimate familiarity with the locality enables him to capture every detail of this world with humour and tenderness.

Festival Guest: Kazuhiro Soda

CHARMIAN CLIFT - LIFE BURNS HIGH



WED 12 JUN 6:00 PM EV9 15+
SAT 15 JUN 3:30 PM SLNSW

Australia | 2024 | 80 mins | In English | World Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Rachel Lane | Producers: Rachel Lane, Sue Milliken | Australian Distributor: Bonsai Films

An intriguing portrait of Charmian Clift: a household name in the 1960s and one of Australia's finest writers.

Born in 1920s Kiama, teenage Charmian escaped to Sydney and after the war scored a newspaper job in Melbourne where she met leading war correspondent George Johnston. Tired of Australian postwar conservatism, the couple left for Europe, finally settling on Hydra, where an artists' colony formed which included Leonard Cohen. Returning to Sydney, Charmian found success writing a newspaper column, but George's ill health and a new novel rumoured to be critical of his wife, fractured their creative partnership, and tragedy ensued. Interest in Charmian's work has revived with the recent publication of her unfinished novel *The End of Morning*, which was put aside to help her husband write his Miles Franklin winner *My Brother Jack*.

Festival Guest: Rachel Lane

THE CONTESTANT



FRI 7 JUN 3:20 PM STATE 15+
SAT 8 JUN 5:40 PM DNT2

UK | 2023 | 90 mins | In English and Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Clair Titley | Producers: Megumi Inman, Andee Ryder, Ian Bonhôte
Production Company: Misfits Entertainment

The incredible true story of a TV contestant left naked in a room, unaware his months-long challenge was being broadcast to millions via a Japanese television show.

In 1998, a budding actor nicknamed 'Nasubi' auditioned for a popular TV producer. Successful, he was led into a room, ordered to strip, and tasked with entering magazine sweepstakes to win what he needed to survive – food and clothing included. Nasubi's expressive face endeared him to viewers, but the hapless contestant was unaware that his every move was being filmed and aired live, and he'd become a mega-celebrity in Japan. With footage from the show and contemporary interviews with Nasubi and his producer, director Clair Titley uncovers the truth behind one of the most extraordinary events ever broadcast, a harbinger for today's reality television.

Festival Guests: Clair Titley and Tomoaki Hamatsu

COPA '71



WED 5 JUN 6:30 PM EV9 ALL AGES
FRI 7 JUN 6:15 PM DNT3
MON 10 JUN 1:15 PM STATE

UK | 2023 | 91 mins | In English, Spanish, Italian and French with English subtitles
Directors: James Erskine, Rachel Ramsay | Screenwriters: Victoria Gregory, Rachel Ramsay, James Erskine
Producers: Victoria Gregory, Anna Godas, Jannat Gargi
Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

The rip-roaring story, shamefully untold for decades, of the 1971 Women's Soccer World Cup, revealed by the awe-inspiring players who competed in the trailblazing tournament.

Why haven't we heard about this global sporting contest, one of the first of its kind, that attracted over 100,000 fans to Mexico City's Azteca Stadium? Because the players were women, and soccer has long been a man's game. Rachel Ramsay and James Erskine's film sets out to put the record straight – super timely given the sport's newly minted popularity. Interviews expose systemic sexism and the governing bodies determined to undermine women's soccer. Threaded throughout is long-lost footage from the 1971 competition, so you can cheer with the crowd as these inspiring but disregarded pioneers step onto the world stage.

FEDERER: LAST TWELVE DAYS



SAT 15 JUN 4:30 PM HOC4
SUN 16 JUN 3:45 PM EV4

ALL AGES

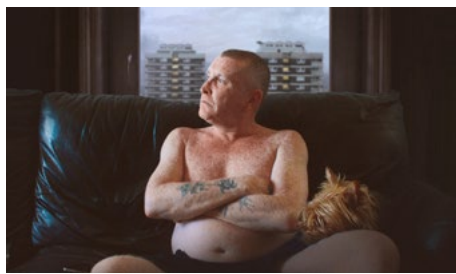
UK | 2024 | 100 mins | In English
Australian Premiere

Directors: Asif Kapadia, Joe Sabia | Producers: Asif Kapadia, George Chignell | Rights Holder: Amazon MGM Studios

Academy Award-winning director Asif Kapadia (*Senna*, *Amy* and *Diego Maradona*, SFF 2019) chronicles the final 12 days of Roger Federer's epic professional tennis career.

Kapadia and his co-director Joe Sabia follow the tennis great as he prepares to announce that his 24-year professional career is coming to an end. Reaching for the media circus about to be unleashed, Federer talks candidly about the reasons behind this decision, and what it means to him and his family. The 2022 Laver Cup, in London's O2 Arena, is slated to be his final match. The event becomes a celebration for Federer and a raft of colleagues including Bjorn Borg, Novak Djokovic, Andy Murray, and his longtime friend and rival Rafael Nadal. Federer is celebrated for his skill but also his graciousness on and off court – something very much in evidence as he approaches this pivotal moment in his life.

THE FLATS



THU 6 JUN 6:10 PM DNT1
SUN 9 JUN 3:10 PM EV11

18+

France, Belgium, UK, Ireland | 2024 | 114 mins
In English and Irish with English subtitles
Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriters: Alessandra Celesia | Producers: Geneviève De Bauw, Jean-Laurent Csinidis, John McIlduff, Jeremiah Cullinane | Sales Agent: The Party Sales

The residents of a Belfast housing estate grapple with the unresolved legacy of the Troubles in this critically acclaimed major-prize winner at CPH:DOX 2024.

New Lodge, a Republican enclave in West Belfast, is home to self-described "ordinary decent criminal" Joe McNally and his dog Freedom. It's a community troubled by memories of violence and lives lost, now besieged by sexual assault and drug abuse. As a way of reconciling with the past, Joe decides to re-enact his young uncle's wake. In a scene reminiscent of Joshua Oppenheimer's *The Act of Killing* (SFF 2013), Joe manhandles a coffin into his cramped flat, then convinces others to participate in his macabre project – and re-enact their collective memories. *The Flats* lays bare a complex, brutal legacy with forensic precision.

Festival Guest: Alessandra Celesia

FLICKERING LIGHTS



WED 12 JUN 6:15 PM PALC1
SAT 15 JUN 1:45 PM DNT2

ALL AGES

India | 2023 | 90 mins | In Tangkhul with English subtitles
Australian Premiere

Directors, Screenwriters: Anupama Srinivasan, Anirban Dutta
Producer: Anirban Dutta | Production Company: Metamorphosis Film Junction

Life before and after electricity in a small village in today's India is vividly captured in this winner from Amsterdam's International Documentary Film Festival.

Far from the bustle of city life, the marginalised village of Tora on India's border with Myanmar has long been waiting in the dark. No roads, no school, no running water, no electricity. When news arrives that a power supply is imminent, the community begins to dream of a new life, perhaps even a fridge for ice cream. How will this dramatic change affect the community? Directors Anirban Dutta and Anupama Srinivasan (who also collaborated on *Nocturnes*, screening in the Festival) interview the villagers as construction begins and excitement soars, in this unique, seven-years-in-the-making documentary.

Festival Guests: Anupama Srinivasan and Anirban Dutta

THE HOME GAME

HEIMALEIKURINN



SAT 8 JUN 4:15 PM EV9
SUN 9 JUN 4:00 PM PNORT3

ALL AGES

Iceland | 2023 | 79 mins | In Icelandic and English with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director: Logi Sigursveinsson, Smari Gunn
Screenwriters: Stephanie Thorpe, Smari Gunn | Producers: Stephanie Thorpe, Heather Millard, Elfar Adalsteins, Freyja Kristinsdóttir | Sales Agent: MetFilm Sales

This feel-good doco follows an Icelander determined to fulfil his father's soccer dreams and bring a home game to his tiny fishing village. An Audience Award winner in Glasgow and New York.

The fishing village of Hellissandur on Iceland's Snæfellsnes Peninsula has a population of just 369. In the 1990s, coach Vidar decided to build a regulation soccer pitch on the edge of an old lava flow, so a local team could compete in Iceland's FA Cup. Sadly, despite building the pitch, the dream game never materialised. So he's taken up golf. Now his son has picked up the challenge, tackling middle-age spread, bureaucracy and frozen pitches as he rallies the community. This Ken Loach meets *Field of Dreams* underdog yarn is utterly charming, full of humour and bulldog tenacity.

Festival Guests: Logi Sigursveinsson and participants

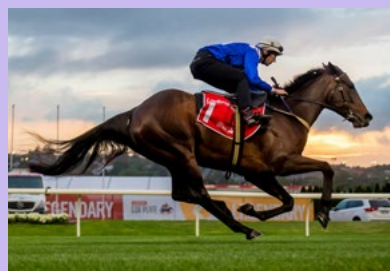


BRING
GLOBAL
STORIES
TO
YOUR
LOCAL
CINEMA

SFF relies on your donations to bring the best films from Australia and the world.

DONATE ONLINE
www.sff.org.au/support-us

A HORSE NAMED WINX



FRI 7 JUN 7:00 PM RITZ1
SUN 9 JUN 3:00 PM RITZ1

ALL AGES

Australia | 2024 | 117 mins | In English
World Premiere

Director, Producer: Janine Hosking | Screenwriter: Andrew Rule | Australian Distributor: Transmission Films

The eagerly awaited documentary on arguably the greatest horse in Australian racing history – Winx in all her equine glory!

Winx is the Phar Lap of the modern era and holds the world record for her spectacular 33 race winning streak. Her first foal sold for a record breaking \$10 million. It all reads like a racing fairy-tale, but the story behind the phenomenon is more complex. With unprecedented access to Winx and the team who made her a champion, award winning director Janine Hosking (*35 Letters*, SFF 2014; *I'm Not Dead Yet*, SFF 2011) and Winx biographer, Andrew Rule, weave a cinematic journey to reveal the spirit of a champion as she faces her greatest challenge.

Join our special guests for a World Premiere gala screening on Friday 7 June!

Festival Guests: Janine Hosking and members of the film team

IN THE REARVIEW

SKAÐ DOKAÐ



SUN 9 JUN 4:15 PM DNT3
TUE 11 JUN 6:30 PM EV11

15+

Poland, Ukraine, France | 2023 | 84 mins | In Polish, Ukrainian, French, English and Russian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Maciek Hamela | Producers: Maciek Hamela, Piotr Grawender | Sales Agent: Cinephil

The Ukrainian conflict as seen from a unique, authentic perspective – through the rearview of a volunteer driving Ukrainian civilians to safety.

When the fighting draws near and lives are in danger, millions of Ukrainians are forced to abandon their homes. Many are reliant on volunteers like Polish filmmaker Maciek Hamela to drive them to safety. Hamela steers his minivan through minefields and detours – all while filming over his shoulder. The cramped, anxious passengers are typically women; mothers with young children and the elderly. As the van zigzags across the devastated countryside, it becomes a space in which they can talk about their experiences and all they've left behind. This haunting documentary, a prize winner at film festivals worldwide, gives voice to the ordinary people of Ukraine.

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

AL HAYA HELWA



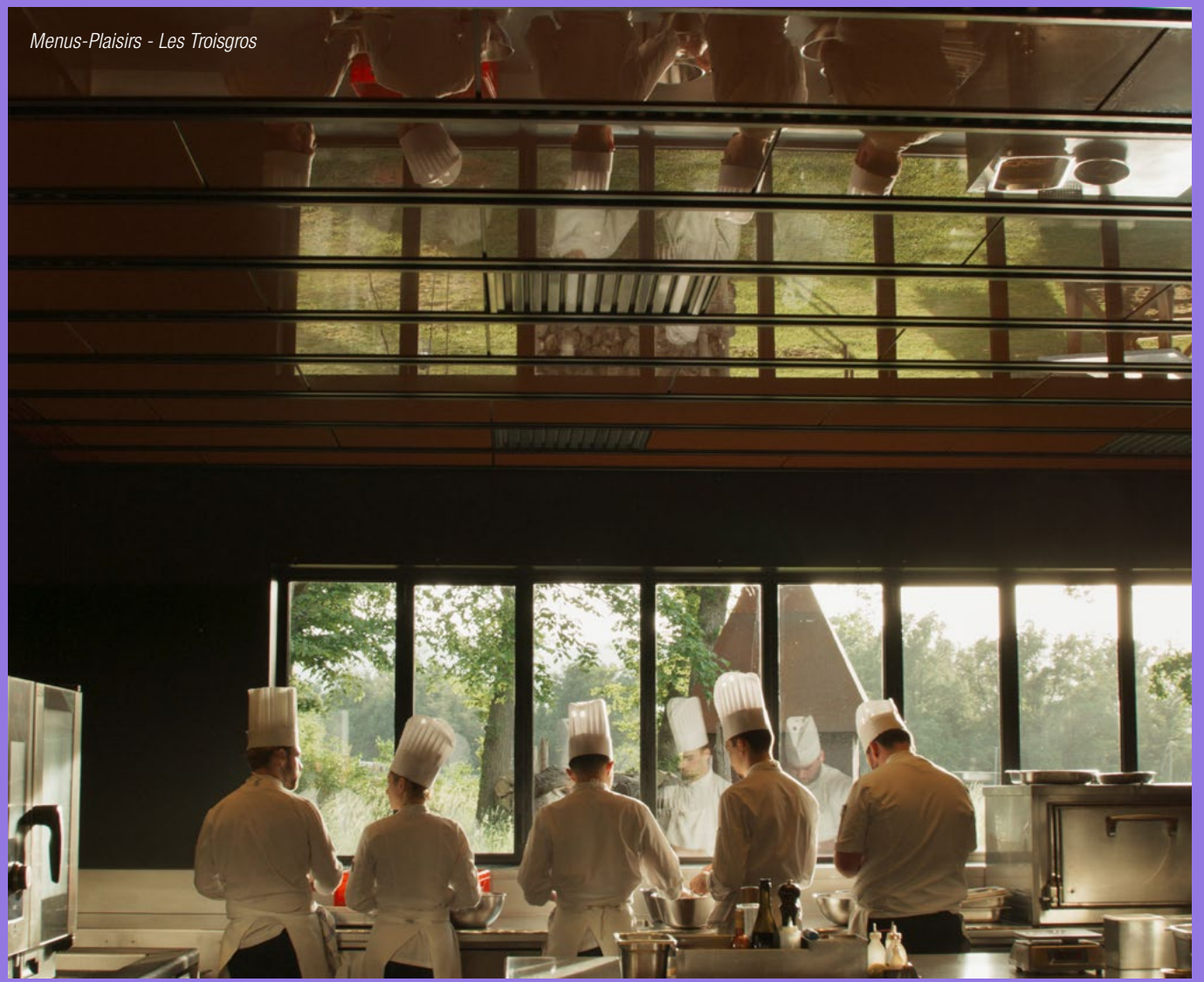
THU 6 JUN 6:00 PM EV9 **ALL AGES**
TUE 11 JUN 6:15 PM DNT1

Norway, Palestine, Qatar | 2023 | 93 mins | In Arabic, English and Norwegian with English subtitles
Australian Premiere

Director: Mohamed Jabaly | Producers: KriStine Ann Skaret, Sarah Winge-Sørensen | Festival Contact: Norwegian Film Institute

A moving first-person account of filmmaker Mohamed Jabaly's seven-year fight to return to his home in Palestine following a Norwegian study trip, which won him the Best Director Award at IDFA.

In 2014, Jabaly – a Gazan filmmaker in his twenties – travels to Tromsø as part of an exchange program. Set to be there for a month, he tours the region talking about his work and joyfully experiencing the snow. But then Egypt's Rafah border-crossing closes unexpectedly and he is stuck, unable to return home. Ever-resilient, Jabaly candidly documents his years-long exile – the visa struggles, community support and filmmaking endeavours – and deep longing for home and family. The result, *Life is Beautiful*, is a powerful condemnation of the fallout from war and conflict.

**MADE IN ENGLAND: THE FILMS OF POWELL AND PRESSBURGER**

WED 5 JUN 7:00 PM AGNSW **ALL AGES**
SAT 8 JUN 3:15 PM RITZ5

UK, USA | 2024 | 131 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
 Director: David Hinton | Producers: Nick Varley, Matthew Wells | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

Martin Scorsese welcomes you into the magical world of his cinematic heroes, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, influential creators of movies such as *The Red Shoes*.

As a child in 1950s New York, Scorsese discovered the work of Powell and Pressburger on American television. It was the beginning of a lifelong fascination with their oeuvre and inspired his own stellar career. Englishman Powell met Pressburger, a Hungarian Jewish exile, in 1939 London. Over the following years, they made 19 feature films together. Using film clips and archive footage, Scorsese steps us through their celebrated collaborations – from *The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp* (SFF 1986) to *Black Narcissus* (SFF 2008), *The Tales of Hoffmann*, and Powell's own, controversial *Peeping Tom* (also screening restored in this year's Festival).

MENUS-PLAISIRS - LES TROISGROS

SUN 9 JUN 3:30 PM EV9 **ALL AGES**
MON 10 JUN 1:00 PM DNT3
SAT 15 JUN 1:00 PM PNORT3

USA, France | 2023 | 240 mins | In English and French with English subtitles | **Australian Premiere**
 Director: Frederick Wiseman | Producers: Olivier Giel, Frederick Wiseman, Karen Konicek | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

Festival favourite Frederick Wiseman (*City Hall*, SFF 2021) returns with a mouth-watering epic set in a three-Michelin-star French restaurant.

Wiseman shifts his exquisite gaze from US institutions (*Ex Libris – The New York Public Library*, SFF 2018) and Parisian cultural life (*La Danse*, SFF 2022) to the world of French gastronomy. The Troisgros family restaurant in France's Rhône-Alpes region, founded in 1930, has grown into a huge operation. Wiseman captures it all: from the vast kitchens, budding chefs, dedicated local provideores and super-efficient waitstaff to the well-heeled patrons. Michel, the third generation to head the restaurant, is preparing to hand the baton to his son. Wiseman (now 94) delivers a luscious and hypnotic portrait of an enduring institution on the verge of change.

MY STOLEN PLANET

SAYYAREYE DOZDIDE SHODEYE MAN



SAT 15 JUN 4:15 PM PALC1 **15+**
SUN 16 JUN 12:15 PM DNT2

Germany, Iran | 2024 | 88 mins | In Farsi with English subtitles | **Australian Premiere**
 Director, Screenwriter: Farahnaz Sharifi | Producers: Lilian Tietjen, Anke Petersen, Farzad Pak
 Sales Agent: Cinephil

In this top prize winner at the prestigious Thessaloniki Film Festival, filmmaker Farahnaz Sharifi traces how the Islamic Revolution changed life for women in Iran, documenting public defiance and private joy.

Born just weeks after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Sharifi's experiences growing up were very different from her mother's generation. The vivacity of the pre-Revolution years lingers on behind closed doors, as though the home is a different planet – but that freedom is increasingly curtailed. She tracks the public and private histories of women: from intimate footage of women singing and dancing, to public protests, including against the mandatory hijab in 1979. Sharifi narrates her own experiences, including the 2022 Woman Life Freedom uprising, which ultimately becomes an act of resistance and a turning point in Farahnaz's life.

A NEW KIND OF WILDERNESS

THU 13 JUN 6:30 PM PNORT3 **15+**
SUN 16 JUN 4:00 PM DNT2

Norway | 2024 | 84 mins | In English and Norwegian with English subtitles | **Australian Premiere**
 Director: Silje Evensmo Jacobsen | Producer: Mari Bakke Riise | Sales Agent: DR Sales

The beautiful, heart-rending story of a young family living a sustainable life in the Norwegian countryside – until tragedy strikes. Sundance Grand Jury Prize Winner 2024.

It's not easy growing your own food, running an isolated smallholding, and home schooling three kids. But Scandi photographer Maria and Englishman Nik are committed to raising their kids in a sustainable off-the-grid way. It's a hectic but seemingly idyllic life, full of precious moments like family walks in the forest. Then the unthinkable happens, and Nik is forced to re-evaluate. Director Silje Evensmo Jacobsen filmed the bilingual household over several years. She captures this close-knit family with tenderness and grace, as they find a way through their grief and forge a new kind of life.

NO OTHER LAND



THU 13 JUN 6:30 PM DNT1 **15+**
SAT 15 JUN 6:00 PM EV4

Palestine, Norway | 2024 | 96 mins | In Arabic, English and Hebrew with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriters: Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal, Yuval Abraham, Rachel Szor | Producers: Fabien Greenberg, Bård Kjøge Rønning, Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal, Yuval Abraham, Rachel Szor | Sales Agent: Outlook Film Sales

A multi-award winner at Berlinale 2024 from a Palestinian-Israeli collective, this salient documentary follows a community's forced expulsion through the eyes of a West Bank activist and an Israeli journalist.

Yuval and Basel are a similar age and live not far from each other, but they have vastly different life experiences. Their uncommon alliance begins in 2019, when Israeli Yuval visits Palestinian Basel and his family while reporting on forced evictions. Over four years they become friends, working together and filming as tensions rise following the outcome of the Masafer Yatta community's 22-year court case. Bulldozers move in, destroying homes and buildings. Villagers rebuild – only for the homes to be torn down again. Despite the confronting content, the resulting documentary is not without hope and humanity. *No Other Land* is essential viewing.

NOCTURNES



WED 12 JUN 10:00 AM STATE **ALL AGES**
THU 13 JUN 6:15 PM PALC1

India, USA | 2024 | 83 mins | In Hindi, English and Bugun with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Directors, Screenwriters: Anirban Dutta, Anupama Srinivasan | Producer: Anirban Dutta
Sales Agent: Dogwoof

In the high forests of the Eastern Himalayas, a scientist uncovers the secrets of moth life – insects whose flutters echo the history of our changing planet, in this Sundance-selected, immersive documentary.

This stunning film focuses on the hawk moth – but that's only a small part of the rich tapestry on screen. Ecologist Mansi Mungee treks into the rainforest over 2,300 metres above sea level. As daylight fades, she sets up screens and lights with the help of a local Indigenous man. The duo diligently identifies and tallies the swarming insects, accompanied by the forest's night-time symphony of whirrs and clicks. Co-directors Anirban Dutta and Anupama Srinivasan (*Flickering Lights*, also screening SFF 2024) deftly capture this magical, meditative environment, leaving you mesmerised and awake to all the little things in our natural world.

Festival Guests: Anirban Dutta and Anupama Srinivasan

OCCUPIED CITY



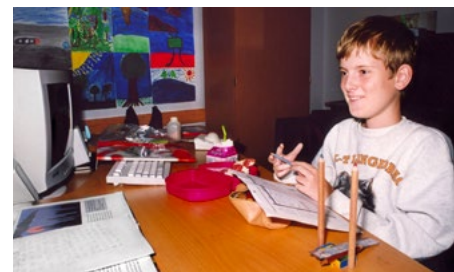
WED 5 JUN 6:15 PM PALC1 **15+**
MON 10 JUN 2:00 PM PALC1

UK, Netherlands, USA | 2023 | 262 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director: Steve McQueen | Screenwriter: Bianca Stigter
Producers: Floor Onrust, Steve McQueen, Bianca Stigter, Anna Smith-Tenser | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

Steve McQueen's monumental and contemplative film looks for traces of Amsterdam's past, when the Dutch city was under Nazi rule, in today's city. Selected Cannes 2023.

Visual artist-turned-filmmaker McQueen won the inaugural Sydney Film Prize for his 2008 debut *Hunger*. Since then, his career has encompassed features (Oscar winner *12 Years a Slave*), television (*Small Axe*, 2020), and documentary (*Grenfell*, 2021). In his latest, McQueen traces the wartime history of his adopted city – from the 1940 Nazi invasion to the increasingly brutal repression and deportation of the Jewish population. Narration relates that history as images of modern-day Amsterdam (shot during the pandemic) fill the screen. Based on a book written by McQueen's partner, Dutch writer-director Bianca Stigter (*Three Minutes – A Lengthening*, SFF 2022), this is a challenging but intensely rewarding opus.

THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF IBELIN



SAT 8 JUN 6:30 PM EV9 **ALL AGES**
MON 10 JUN 4:30 PM EV5

Norway | 2024 | 104 mins | In Norwegian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Benjamin Ree | Producer: Ingvil Giske
Company: Netflix

Winner of the Sundance World Cinema Documentary Directing and Audience Awards, this exceptional documentary blends video games and real life to shattering effect.

Keen gamer Mats Steen was just 25 when he died of a degenerative muscular disease that severely impacted his movement and speech. His parents mourned not only the death of their son, but the experiences he had missed out on. But then they discovered his other life: Mats' World of Warcraft persona, Ibelin, sulks, jogs, makes friends and falls in love. Norwegian filmmaker Benjamin Ree (*The Painter and the Thief*) makes use of reconstructed animated gameplay as well as interviews with Mats' online community to reveal the complex, vibrant life that Ibelin/Mats enjoyed in this extraordinarily moving film.

REWARDS FOR THE TRIBE



FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM DNT2 **ALL AGES**
SUN 9 JUN 4:30 PM DNT2

Australia | 2023 | 91 mins | In English
Director, Screenwriter: Rhys Graham | Producer: Philippa Campey, Molly O'Connor | Production Company: Film Camp

A visually beautiful and heart-warming documentary tracing the first collaboration between acclaimed contemporary dance companies Restless Dance Theatre – a troupe of dancers with disability – and genre-defying Chunky Move.

The film moves between thoughtful, playful interviews with the performers, and the process of developing this major new work led by choreographer Antony Hamilton. As the group explores movement and expression, they also question the myths of physical perfection. The film's director, Rhys Graham (*Words from the City*, SFF 2007), worked closely with the two dance companies and assistant director Jana Castillo, a dancer living with disability. Made in association with Bus Stop Films, this is a joyful, kinetic ode to the rewards of rethinking dance, perfection and harmony.

Screens with *Dancer*

Festival Guests: Rhys Graham, Philippa Campey and members of the film team



Skywalkers: A Love Story

SUN 9 JUN 6:00 PM | SPECIAL EVENT SCREENING PRICES APPLY

Don't miss a special stomach-dropping screening of *Skywalkers: A Love Story* at IMAX Darling Harbour.

SKYWALKERS: A LOVE STORY



WED 5 JUN 6:15 PM DNT1
SUN 9 JUN 6:00 PM IMAX
WED 12 JUN 6:30 PM EV5

15+

USA | 2023 | 99 mins | In English and Russian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Jeff Zimbalist | Co-Director: Maria Bukhonina | Producers: Jeff Zimbalist, Maria Bukhonina, Chris Smith, Tamir Ardon
Company: Netflix

Two hardcore daredevils scale the world's highest buildings to capture giddy footage for social media and ignite passion in the process, in this thrill-filled Sundance 2024 selected doco.

It's an extremely dangerous and illegal activity, but 'rooftoppers' – photogenic Angela and uber-fit Ivan – are fiercely committed to scaling treacherously tall buildings and filming themselves. The Russian duo joined forces to climb and ended up in a relationship. Extreme risks and romance are difficult bedfellows, however – and, in a funk, Angela (one of the few women in the sport) decides to climb the world's highest building with or without her partner. The perils are immense: the 118-story Malaysian skyscraper is still under construction, and if the authorities catch her, she faces imprisonment. Captured on handheld cameras and drones, the duo's story is spectacular, terrifying and vertigo-inducing – you'll want to look away but can't!

SUGARCANE



THU 6 JUN 6:00 PM PALC1
SUN 16 JUN 3:50 PM DNT3

15+

USA, Canada | 2024 | 107 mins | In English and Secwepemctsin with English subtitles
Australian Premiere

Directors: Julian Brave NoiseCat, Emily Kassie | Producers: Emily Kassie, Kellen Quinn | Sales Agent: Dogwoof Sales

A gripping investigation into the Canadian Indigenous residential school system, igniting a reckoning in the lives of survivors and descendants. Winner of Sundance's Directing Award for US Documentary 2024.

When unmarked graves are discovered near the grounds of a former residential school for Indigenous children near British Columbia's Sugarcane Reserve, the Williams Lake First Nation community launches an investigation to expose this devastating history. For the remaining survivors, the torture and abuse that took place at St. Joseph's Mission Residential School continues to reverberate in psychologically and emotionally devastating ways. This haunting documentary follows the community's search to uncover the truth and demand accountability from the highest levels of the Catholic Church.

SUPER/MAN:
THE CHRISTOPHER REEVE STORY

SAT 8 JUN 4:45 PM HOC5
MON 10 JUN 6:00 PM RITZ3
SUN 16 JUN 2:00 PM EV9

ALL AGES

USA, UK | 2024 | 104 mins | In English
Australian Premiere

Directors: Ian Bonhôte, Peter Ettegui | Screenwriter: Peter Ettegui | Producers: Ian Bonhôte, Robert Ford, Lizzie Gillett | Australian Distributor: Universal Pictures International

An intensely moving portrait of actor, father, and activist Christopher Reeve – before and after his accident – as recounted by family and friends. Sundance 2024.

Directors Ian Bonhôte and Peter Ettegui (who also worked together on the BAFTA nominated *McQueen*) move between Reeve's spectacular career rise (at just 24, winning the iconic role in Richard Donner's 1977 *Superman*) and his 1995 horse-riding accident, subsequent paralysis, and disability advocacy. The filmmakers make great use of intimate home footage and interviews with Reeve's partner and three children (who continue his campaign), as well as his Hollywood friends, including Susan Sarandon, Glenn Close and Robin Williams. Largely narrated by Reeve, from extensive audio recordings made during his lifetime, this moving film received a standing ovation at its Sundance 2024 opening night premiere.

WILDING 

SAT 8 JUN 3:45 PM DNT1
MON 10 JUN 4:00 PM PNORT3
SUN 16 JUN 6:20 PM RITZ5

ALL AGES

UK | 2023 | 75 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Director: David Allen | Screenwriter: Isabella Tree | Producer: Gaby Bastyra | Sales Agent: MetFilm Sales

Based on a bestseller by Isabella Tree, *Wilding* is the inspirational story of an English country estate that joins the rewilding revolution and thrives. London Film Festival selection.

When Isabella's husband, Charlie, inherited the 1,400-hectare Knepp estate in West Sussex, the land was plainly suffering after decades of intensive farming. Transforming it wasn't going to be easy – as well as noxious weeds, the family faced unsympathetic neighbours and time-consuming bureaucracy. David Allen's film follows their journey, capturing the triumphs and setbacks and ultimately revealing a place transformed with ancient breed pigs, flower-filled hedgerows, busy beavers, rare storks, and magical swarms of butterflies. The cinematography by BAFTA and Emmy award winners Tim Cragg and Simon de Glanville is appropriately glorious, and the film practically breathes with renewed life.

Screens with *The Feast*

Get
creative
with
UTS

Film
Animation
Publishing
Music
Sound Design
Media
and more..



Learn more



UTS CRICOS 00099F / UTS TEQSA PRV12060
40139/JAN 2024



NOW WE'RE TALKING...



Breakfast with Craig Reucassel
702 AM and the ABC listen app

SOUNDS ON SCREEN

PRESENTED BY 



Head South

In addition to the films listed below, see more music on screen with:

- Kneecap*, page 7
- Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line*, page 8
- Mozart's Sister*, page 13
- Welcome to Yiddishland*, page 13



SPECIAL LIVE EVENT

RESONANCE



SAT 8 JUN 4:00 PM SLNSW ALL AGES

Australia | 2023 | 65 mins inc. performance
In English | World Premiere
Directors, Producers: Kate Vinen, Jayden Rathsam Hua
Australian Distributor: Australian Film, Television and Radio School

Witness a one-off live musical event at the State Library with this hypnotic short documentary portrait of a classical quartet, to be followed with a live performance from the quartet after the screening.

From directors Jayden Rathsam Hua and Kate Vinen (*Acts for the Invisible*, SFF 2021), *Resonance* opens with scenes of construction outside Melbourne's Royal Exhibition Building. Workers are building what looks like a large wooden box. We soon realise that it's a performance space, knocked up overnight and then gone – an appropriate symbol for the ephemeral nature of live performance. Capturing footage of a quartet's rehearsal process and subsequent concert, the directors highlight the various points of connection contained within a live performance: between the quartet members; between the quartet and the audience; and between all the participants and the physical space they share.

HEAD SOUTH



THU 6 JUN 8:20 PM EV9
SUN 9 JUN 4:00 PM DNT1

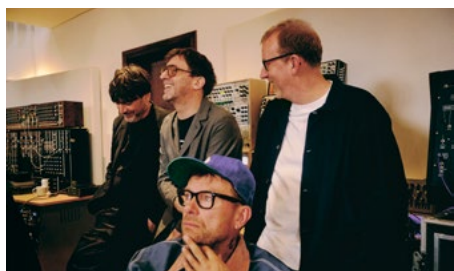
New Zealand | 2024 | 99 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Jonathan Ogilvie | Producers: Jonathan Ogilvie, Antje Kulpe | Cast: Ed Oxenbould, Márton Csókás, Stella Bennett | Production Company: Head South Cohort

Set in the upstart postpunk scene of late '70s Christchurch – director Jonathan Ogilvie's hometown – this bittersweet semi-autobiographical coming-of-age tale features a killer soundtrack and opened Rotterdam 2024.

Ed Oxenbould (*The Visit*) is wonderfully vulnerable as Angus, a middle-class schoolboy desperate to be one of the cool kids on the local music scene in thrall to the sounds of London bands like PiL and Siouxsie and the Banshees. Cutting off his long hair, finagling a bass, and scoring a gig before he even learns to play, Angus stumbles into a thrilling new world with sweet charm and mortifying awkwardness. Márton Csókás (*Cuckoo*, also screening at the Festival) is stellar as Angus's embittered but understanding dad who is suddenly too bourgeois and establishment for his newly class-conscious son. Filled with warmth and nostalgic detail, Ogilvie has crafted an aching emotional tribute to an epochal moment in music.

Festival Guest: Jonathan Ogilvie

UNTITLED BLUR DOCUMENTARY



SAT 15 JUN 8:30 PM RITZ1 ALL AGES
SUN 16 JUN 6:15 PM EV4

UK | 2024 | 102 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Director: Toby L. | Producer: Josh Connolly
Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

Capturing the emotional return of Blur, with a new album and sold-out shows at Wembley Stadium, this all-access documentary beautifully expresses the band's lingering influence.

Decades after their formation, Blur is as popular as ever. Musical polymath and frontman Damon Albarn has several other projects, from Gorillaz to operas. But when he summons his band mates – Graham Coxon, Alex James and Dave Rowntree – to record material for their first album in eight years (2023's *The Ballad of Darren*), the friends are soon reunited in the studio. And this time, they're also preparing for something that always eluded them – a show at Wembley Stadium. Featuring live performances of the band's most iconic, much-loved songs, as well as footage of life in the studio and on the road, this film is an intimate moment in time with a band that has been at the heart of British cultural life and influence for over three decades.

18+ FOR PEOPLE OVER THE AGE OF 18 ONLY

YOU CAN'T TAME A GOAT.



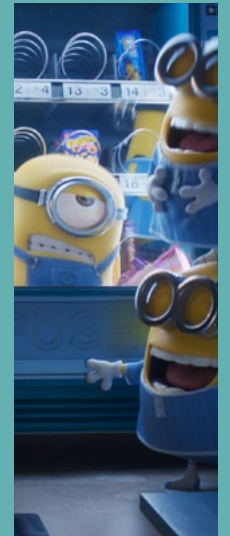
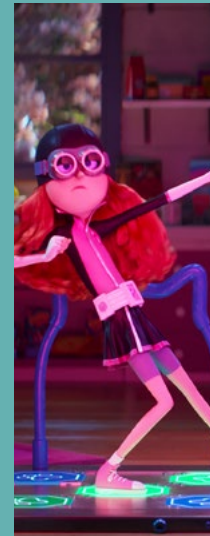
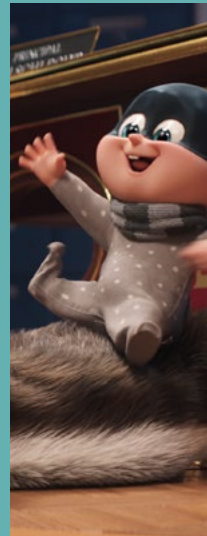
FAMILY



Despicable Me 4

Sydney Film Festival is proud to present the premieres of three Australian family features: *My Freaky Family*, based on popular book series *The Floods*; *200% Wolf*, full of magic and wonder; and the totally charming *The Sloth Lane*. Round this off with the crowd-pleasing *Despicable Me 4* and, for older kids, Berlinale's Crystal Bear-winning *It's Okay*.

Katharine Rogers, Family Films Programmer



DESPICABLE ME 4

SAT 15 JUN 1:45 PM STATE

ALL AGES

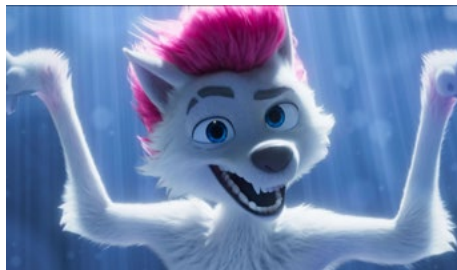
USA | 2024 | 95 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

Director: Chris Renaud | Screenwriter: Mike White, Ken Daurio | Producers: Brett Hoffman, Chris Meledandri
Cast: Steve Carell, Will Ferrell, Kristen Wiig | Australian Distributor: Universal Pictures International

Gru (voiced by Steve Carell) faces a new nemesis (Will Ferrell) in Illumination's non-stop animated actioner *Despicable Me 4*, with a screenplay co-written by Mike White (*The White Lotus*).

Following the 2022 blockbuster phenomenon of Illumination's *Minions: The Rise of Gru*, the biggest animated franchise in movie history is back. This time, Gru (Steve Carell), the world's favourite supervillain turned Anti-Villain League agent, has a new son, and the youngster is intent on tormenting his dad. Worse, Gru must face a new bad guy in Maxime Le Mal (Will Ferrell) and his femme fatale girlfriend Valentina (Sofia Vergara), and the whole family is forced to go on the run. Kristen Wiig and Steve Coogan are among the returning cast in this hilarious adventure from the best in the animation business.

200% WOLF



SUN 9 JUN 1:45 PM EV3
SAT 15 JUN 12:00 PM RITZ5

ALL AGES

Australia | 2024 | 90 mins | In English | World Premiere
Director: Alexs Stademmann | Screenwriter: Fin Edquist
Producers: Barbara Stephen, Alexia Gates-Foale, Carmen Perez-Marsa Roca | Cast: Ilai Swindells, Jennifer Saunders, Samara Weaving | Australian Distributor: STUDIOCANAL

Heroic were-poodle Freddy Lupin feels ready to lead the werewolf pack! If only he were more... wolfish. The latest gem from Sydney animation studio Flying Bark (*Maya the Bee*, SFF 2018).

Freddy belongs to a werewolf family and needs to prove himself to his elders if he wants to be taken seriously. Stumbling upon some old runes, he accidentally conjures powers from a cheeky moon sprite, Moopoo. Now Freddy must help Moopoo get back to the moon and restore the cosmic order. Enlisting the help of friends Batty and Hamish, Freddy must trick an outcast sorceress, exploiting her magical powers to get Moopoo home. A journey of self-discovery and friendship, this much anticipated sequel to *100% Wolf* is a World Premiere – featuring a voice cast of local Aussies Ilai Swindells (*Bay of Fires*, SFF 2023) and Samara Weaving (*Chevalier*, SFF 2023), plus comedians Jennifer Saunders and Akmal Saleh.

Festival Guests: Members of the film team

IT'S OKAY!



SAT 15 JUN 1:30 PM DNT3
SUN 16 JUN 1:45 PM DNT3

15+

South Korea | 2023 | 102 mins | In English and Korean with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Directors: Kim Hye-young | Screenwriters: Kim Hye-young, Cho Hong-jun | Producer: Song Won-seok | Cast: Lee Re, Jin Seo-yeon, Chung Su-bin | Festival Contact: Kim Hye-young

Winner of the Crystal Bear at Berlin, this riveting Korean film is set in the competitive world of a dance academy which becomes a refuge for a newly homeless student who secretly moves in.

In her moving directorial debut, Kim Hye-young tells the story of teenager In-young (Lee Re), who finds herself alone and homeless after the death of her mother. In the midst of her grief, she must also fight to keep her scholarship at a competitive dance academy. Tensions rise as the year's final performance gets closer and their perfectionist teacher Seol-ah (Jin Seo-yeon) demands impossibly high standards from all the girls. When Seol-ah discovers In-young squatting at the dance academy one night, things take a surprising turn for both women. A joyous dance finale is bound to send you home happy!

MY FREAKY FAMILY



SAT 8 JUN 2:00 PM EV3
MON 10 JUN 10:00 AM RITZ5

ALL AGES

Australia, Ireland | 2024 | 86 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

Director: Mark Gravas | Screenwriters: Cleon Prineas, Harry Cripps, Penny Greenhalgh | Producers: Lauren Gravas, Gerry Travers, Cathy Ni Fhlaithearta, Carmel Travers | Cast: Evanna Lynch, Miranda Otto, Richard Roxburgh | Australian Distributor: Pivot Pictures

A magical Australian-Irish animation, based on the popular children's books *The Floods*, in which 12-year-old Betty discovers her mystical powers just as a dark force kidnaps her family.

From the opening chase sequence to the musical finale, this animated feature with a stand-out voice cast – including Evanna Lynch (*Harry Potter*), Richard Roxburgh and Miranda Otto – is full of thrills, spills, and spells. Betty Flood finds her wacky family embarrassing and wishes her magical mum could at least try to act more normal. But Betty is just realising that she has magical gifts of her own. When a dark power kidnaps her family, she must harness her magical abilities to rescue them. Will her newfound powers be strong enough to save the day? Magic, music, and marvellous adventures await.

Festival Guests: Members of the film team

THE SLOTH LANE



SAT 15 JUN 12:00 PM EV3
SUN 16 JUN 10:30 AM RITZ5

ALL AGES

Australia | 2024 | 89 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

Directors: Tania Vincent, Ricard Cussó | Screenwriters: Tania Vincent, Ryan Greaves | Producers: Kristen Souvlis, Nadine Bates, Ryan Greaves | Cast: Teo Vergara, Olivia Vásquez, Remy Hii, Leslie Jones, Ben Gorroño | Australian Distributor: Universal Content Group

When a fast-paced city demands fast food, a family of sloths set on opening a food truck might need to pick up the pace in this home-grown animated charmer.

12-year-old sloth Laura (voiced by Teo Vergara) is devastated when a storm destroys her family's restaurant and forces them to relocate from the peaceful countryside to the big city. The sloths take only their prized family recipe book with them – and an old van. They open a food truck, and soon business is booming. There's just one problem. Famous entrepreneur Dotti Pace (Leslie Jones) – a cheetah with big ambitions and a failing fast-food chain – is determined to buy their family business. When the sloths decline to sell, Dotti resorts to nefarious tactics to steal their family legacy. Can Laura stop her before it's too late? Great Aussie voice talent including Dan Brumm (Uncle Stripe in *Bluey*) and Remy Hii (*Spider-Man: Far From Home*) bring this charmer to life!

Festival Guests: Members of the film team

EUROPE! VOICES OF WOMEN IN FILM



Afterwar



Excursion



Immortals



The Lost Children

EUROPE! Voices of Women in Film is a celebration of the diverse and powerful narratives brought to life by female filmmakers across Europe. In 2024, Cineuropa proudly partners with EFP to showcase a new class of talented directors, each bringing their unique perspectives and stories to the screen.

These visionary filmmakers delve into the intricacies of human experience, from grappling with identity and belonging to challenging societal norms and confronting systemic biases.

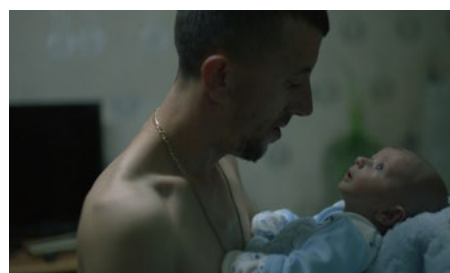
Through their features and documentaries, these directors explore a myriad of themes, including personal journeys of resilience, the complexities of cultural heritage, and the ongoing struggle for gender equality. With courage and creativity, they shine a spotlight on untold stories and amplify voices that deserve to be heard.

As partners of Sydney Film Festival, Cineuropa and European Film Promotion are honoured to support these emerging talents and share their groundbreaking work with audiences worldwide.

Valerio Caruso

Cineuropa

AFTERWAR



SUN 9 JUN 7:00 PM DNT2
TUE 11 JUN 8:20 PM PALC1

18+

Denmark, Kosovo, Sweden, Finland | 2024 | 85 mins
In Kosovo Albanian with English subtitles
Australian Premiere

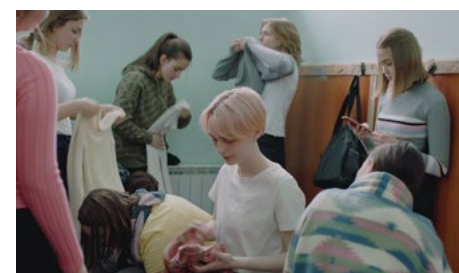
Director, Screenwriter: Birgitte Stærmoose | Producers:
Lise Lense-Møller | Festival Contact: Danish Film Institute

Shot over 15 years, this deeply empathetic documentary charts the aftermath of war-torn 1990s Kosovo through the intimate stories of four survivors who experienced the conflict as children. Berlinale selected.

15 years ago, while making a short film in Pristina, award-winning Danish director Birgitte Stærmoose met several local kids selling peanuts and cigarettes on the street. She kept in touch, and in 2017 returned to film a sequel with their help. The resulting hybrid feature focuses on Xhevahire, Gëzim, Shpresim, and Besnik (all credited as co-creators) and is structured in three parts – the 1998-99 war, the quartet's struggles in the present, and their uncertain future. As these former street kids reflect on the war's long-term impact on their lives, audiences are left to consider the unavoidable truth: that today's conflicts will doubtless trigger the same repercussions.

EXCURSION

EKSKURZIJA



MON 10 JUN 6:00 PM EV11
WED 12 JUN 8:45 PM DNT2

15+

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, France, Norway, Qatar | 2023 | 93 mins | In Bosnian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: Una Gunjak | Producers:
Amra Bakšić Čamo, Adis Đapo | Cast: Asja Zara Lagumdžija,
Nada Spaho, Maja Izetbegović | Sales Agent:
Salaud Morisset

In Una Gunjak's sensitive exploration of youthful folly, a Bosnian teen's white lie spirals out of control with dire social consequences.

During a game of truth or dare, soft-spoken Bosnian teen Iman (Asja Zara Lagumdžija, Best Performance winner, Marrakech FF) confirms a rumour she slept with an older crush – even though it isn't true. The seemingly harmless white lie soon snowballs into more compulsive fibbing, threatening Iman's closest relationships and a buzzy upcoming excursion. Director Una Gunjak explores this hotbed of patriarchal double standards and peer pressure through a nuanced and empathetic female lens. Assisted by DOP Matthias Pilz's crisp handheld cinematography, this carefully observed debut captures the vibrant intensity of being young, impulsive, and fumbling your way through life.

For additional information on the featured films and filmmakers visit efp-online.com and sff.org.au

IMMORTALS



SAT 15 JUN 1:00 PM DNT1 15+
SUN 16 JUN 4:15 PM PALC1

Switzerland, Iraq | 2024 | 94 mins | In Arabic with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Maja Tschumi | Screenwriters: Maja Tschumi, Melak Mahdi, Mohammed Al Khalili | Producers: Nadine Lüchinger, Mohammed Alghadhban | Sales Agent: CAT&Docs

Two young Iraqis risked their lives for freedom in the 2019 uprising. Five years later, what kind of world are they facing? CPH:DOX and Thessaloniki FF selected.

A committed feminist, Milo enthusiastically took part in the 2019 mass demonstrations in Iraq's capital, Baghdad. In response, her ultra-conservative family locked her up at home for a year and burnt her wardrobe and possessions. Now she sneaks out of the house in her brother's clothes. Khalili risked his life filming the street battles; his devastating footage is featured in the film. Today, he struggles with the impact of activism on his health and wellbeing. Working closely with Swiss filmmaker Maja Tschumi, the pair collaborated on this unique, cinematic film based on their lives, laying bare memories as they expose their anguish and hope.

Festival Guest: Maja Tschumi

JE'VIDA



SAT 15 JUN 8:00 PM PALC1 15+
SUN 16 JUN 2:30 PM PNORT3

Finland | 2023 | 103 mins | In Skolt Sámi and Finnish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Katja Gauriloff | Screenwriters: Katja Gauriloff, Niillas Holmberg | Producers: Joonas Berghäll, Satu Majava, Anna Nuru | Cast: Agafia Niemenmaa, Heidi Juliana Gauriloff, Sanna-Kaisa Palo | Sales Agent: The Yellow Affair

The first film shot entirely in the Skolt Sámi language, award-winning director Katja Gauriloff's *Je'vida* tells the story of a Sámi woman in Finland facing the past she struggled to hide.

Iida is a woman hardened by decades of shame, carrying the weight of a life defined by prejudice because of her Sámi heritage. Confronted by the pain of her past, she sets out for Lapland alongside her niece, Sanna, to clear out their long-held family home in preparation for its sale. Iida's instinct is to burn anything and everything connected to her heritage. However, as she ruminates on her history, Iida finds herself facing a powerful reckoning – and the possibility of reclaiming an identity she had denied herself.

Screens with *First Horse*

THE LOST CHILDREN

LES ENFANTS PERDUS



MON 10 JUN 6:00 PM DNT2 15+
WED 12 JUN 6:20 PM EV11

Belgium | 2023 | 82 mins | In French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Michèle Jacob | Screenwriters: Michèle Jacob, Ben Dessey | Producers: Sebastian Schelenz | Cast: Iris Mirzabekiantz, Liocha Mirzabekiantz, Louis Litt Magis | Sales Agent: TVCO

In Belgian director Michèle Jacob's surreal horror, four children are abandoned in a remote countryside house. They soon discover there is no way out of the woods...

A father tenderly carries his young daughter through a darkened house and tucks her into bed. The sweet parental gesture soon morphs into confusion and terror when the girl wakes to discover that she and her three siblings have been mysteriously abandoned in the forest. The resourceful kids ration food and play hide-and-seek until they can find a way home – but when things start to go to bump in the night, the boundary between reality and the paranormal becomes blurred. Full of sly Lynchian imagery, Michèle Jacob's debut feature is a suspenseful, visually inventive fairy-tale full of sublimated trauma and simmering unease, bolstered by a remarkable quartet of child performances.

A POSTCARD FROM ROME

PASTKARTE NO ROMAS



THU 6 JUN 6:30 PM PNORT3 15+
SUN 16 JUN 2:00 PM HOC5

Latvia | 2024 | 88 mins | In Latvian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director: Elza Gauja | Screenwriters: Elza Gauja, Elizabete Lukšo-Ražinska | Producers: Elza Gauja, Andris Gauja, Uģis Riekstiņš, Marta Šleiere | Cast: Indra Burkovska, Jānis Jarāns, Ivars Brakovskis | Production Company: Picture House

In this gentle love story, married postal workers win a trip to Rome by cunning means, but health issues threaten their lifelong dream. Crowned Latvia's Best Feature of the year.

Loving Latvian couple Ernests and Alvine discover they can take advantage of a lottery scheme to fulfill their lifelong dream of travelling to Rome. As they embark on their international holiday, it becomes clear that Alvine's Alzheimer's disease is rapidly progressing – a reality that neither party is ready to face. Director Elza Gauja handles this heavy subject matter with a light touch, focusing on the conspiratorial banter and bickering of the central couple, whose relationship is defined by decades-long devotion. Latvia and Rome are photographed with cosy warmth and vivid detail in this funny and tender drama.

Sydney's home of curated film

Art Gallery NSW Cinema

Free Book now

ag NSW/art/cinema
Film still (Hans Richter, *Filmstudie*, 1926)

FREAK ME OUT

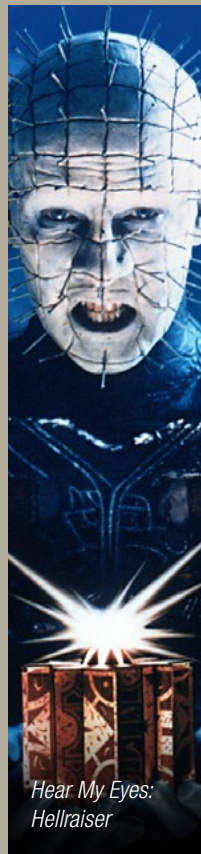
Freak Me Out is your SFF destination for spine-tingling, pulse-quickening and very weird talking pictures. Heavy duty horror, tick. Mind boggling action, tick. Moody and mystical dreamscapes, tick. Rasping social horror, tick.

Hilarious adventures across time and space, tick. Eight wondrous walks on the wild side of cinema? Tick.

Richard Kuipers, Guest Programmer



The Paragon



Hear My Eyes: Hellraiser



Cuckoo



CUCKOO



THU 6 JUN 8:45 PM DNT1 18+
FRI 7 JUN 9:00 PM PALC1
SAT 15 JUN 8:30 PM EV5

USA, Germany | 2024 | 102 mins | In English, French and German with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter: Tilman Singer | Producers: Markus Halberschmidt, Josh Rosenbaum, Maria Tsigka, Ken Kao, Thor Bradwell | Cast: Hunter Schafer, Dan Stevens, Jessica Henwick | Australian Distributor: Park Circus

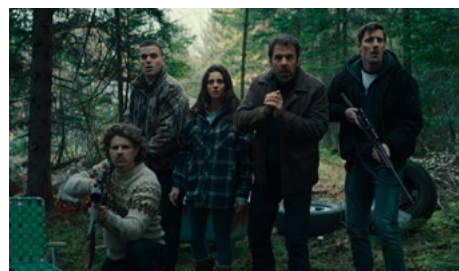
Hunter Schafer (*Euphoria*) stars in a fantastically unrestrained tale of very strange goings-on at a holiday resort in the Bavarian Alps. Berlinale, SXSW 2024.

Troubled teen Gretchen (Schafer) is forced to relocate to Bavaria with her distant dad and his new family. Wanting only to return to America, she begins work at a resort owned by alarmingly eccentric entrepreneur Herr König (Dan Stevens, priceless). After hearing screams in the dead of night and encountering time-warps, Gretchen suspects this weirdly retro-modern place is catering to much more than the tourist trade. Throbbing with sinister secrets and clever twists, *Cuckoo* is a wildly entertaining exercise in unrestrained imagination from Tilman Singer (*Luz*, 2018). Schafer is dynamite as the heroine whose stint in this creepy paradise delivers lashings of lurid horror and packs a powerful emotional punch.

Screens with *Transylvanie*

HUNTING DAZE

JOUR DE CHASSE



MON 10 JUN 6:30 PM EV3 18+
FRI 14 JUN 9:00 PM DNT3

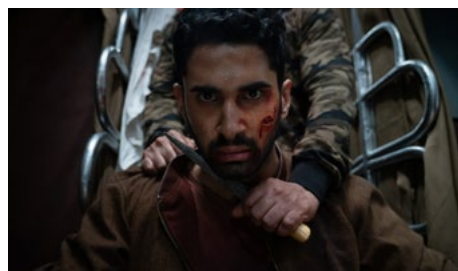
Canada | 2024 | 79 mins | In French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Annick Blanc | Producer: Maria Gracia Turgeon, Annick Blanc | Cast: Nahéma Ricci, Bruno Marcil, Frédéric Millaire-Zouvi, Marc Beaupré
Sales Agent: Arthood Entertainment

Annick Blanc's blistering debut centres on a woman stranded at a buck's party in the Quebec wilderness. This SXSW Midnighters hit subverts expectations with a vengeance...

A fiery argument with her boss leaves exotic dancer Nina stranded in the middle of nowhere. Her only option is to return to the bachelor party she worked at the night before and ask for shelter. In the first of many clever twists on survival thriller conventions, these posturing city man-boys are no threat. Nina soon feels right at home in their "wolf pack" at a remote hunting lodge. But shocking events are in store once a mysterious stranger arrives. Both brutal and dreamily hypnotic, Blanc's darkly comic examination of relationships between men, women and nature is superbly photographed and features a knockout lead performance from Nahéma Ricci.

Screens with *Lullaby*

KILL



FRI 14 JUN 9:00 PM EV5 18+
SUN 16 JUN 8:40 PM DNT1

India | 2023 | 115 mins | In Hindi with English subtitles
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Nikhil Nagesh Bhat
Producers: Karan Johar, Achin Jain, Apoorva Mehta, Guneet Monga Kapoor | Cast: Lakshya, Tanya Maniktala, Raghav Juyal | Australian Distributor: Kismet Movies

One speeding train. 40 bloodthirsty bandits. And a badass hero who smashes, kicks and pulverises his way through them. This action spectacle lit up the Toronto Midnight Madness screen.

With mayhem on a scale you can hardly believe, it's safe to say there has never been an Indian film — and very few action movies — like this before. It begins as a gloriously heaving romantic melodrama, but once the happy couple leave on a night train to New Delhi, all hell breaks loose and never stops. Barely a gun is sighted as charismatic off-duty commando Amrit Rathod (Lakshya, sensational) uses fists, feet, knives and whatever else comes to hand while tackling endless waves of supremely nasty bad guys. Director Nikhil Nagesh Bhat, with the valuable assistance of ace action choreographer Oh Se-young (*Snowpiercer*), ensures the action is brilliantly sustained to the explosive final destination. There is no quiet carriage on this train.

Screens with *Earwax*

THE MOOGAI



SAT 8 JUN 8:30 PM EV5 18+
SUN 9 JUN 8:45 PM DNT1

Australia | 2023 | 86 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Jon Bell | Producers: Kristina Ceyton, Samantha Jennings, Mitchell Stanley | Cast: Shari Sebbens, Meyne Wyatt, Tessa Rose | Australian Distributor: Maslow Entertainment

A malicious spirit enters the home of a young Indigenous couple with a newborn baby. Based on his SFF-winning short of the same name, writer-director Jon Bell's striking feature debut arrives direct from SXSW and Sundance.

The haunting history of the Stolen Generations looms large in this boldly conceived and stylishly executed psychological horror movie from Jon Bell (*The Chuck In*, SFF 2013). When successful city lawyer Sarah (Shari Sebbens) and husband Fergus (Meyne Wyatt) become parents for the second time, their joy is short-lived. Lurking in the shadows is a whispering creature that wants to steal their baby. Artfully weaving the story of Sarah's difficult family background into the nightmarish terror that begins to consume her, Bell delivers an eerie tale that unfolds at the intersection of primal fear, generational trauma and supernatural horror.

Festival Guests: Jon Bell and members of the film team

THE PARAGON



FRI 7 JUN 8:15 PM DNT3 18+
SUN 9 JUN 8:30 PM EV3

New Zealand | 2023 | 83 mins | In English
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Michael Duignan | Producers: Lissy Turner, Michael Duignan | Cast: Benedict Wall, Florence Nobel, Michelle Ang | Sales Agent: Patra Spanou Film

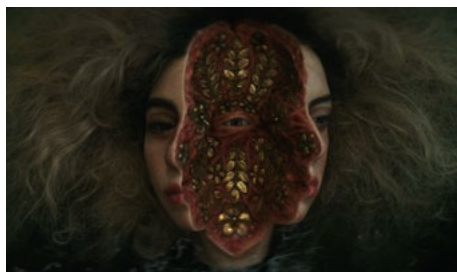
A tennis coach teams with a mysterious psychic tutor to seek revenge on a hit-and-run driver. This delightfully lo-fi cosmic comedy-fantasy is set in Auckland and surrounding alternate realities.

Kiwi writer-director Michael Duignan hits the bullseye with his hugely entertaining and imaginative debut feature. Limping former tennis pro Dutch wants to become psychic so he can take revenge on the hit-and-run driver he blames for everything. Lyra is a psychic coach who suddenly appears and promises to teach Dutch about things like "hyper-dimensional consciousness." Duignan turns his modest budget into an asset, and this cosmic caper is played to deadpan perfection by Benedict Wall and Florence Nobel.

Screens with *Meat Puppet*

Festival Guest: Michael Duignan

SHE LOVED BLOSSOMS MORE



SAT 15 JUN 8:15 PM DNT1 **18+**
SUN 16 JUN 8:45 PM EV3

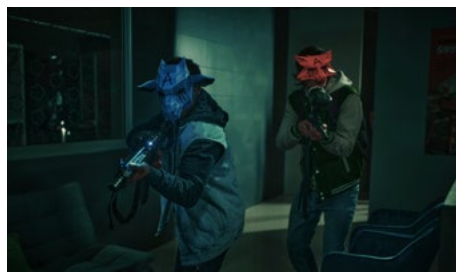
Greece, France | 2024 | 86 mins | In Greek and French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director: Yannis Veslemes | Screenwriters: Yannis Veslemes, Dimitris Emmanouilidis | Producer: Fenia Cossovitsa | Cast: Panos Papadopoulos, Julio Giorgos Katsis, Dominique Pinon
 Sales Agent: Yellow Veil Pictures

Direct from its Tribeca World Premiere comes Yannis Veslemes' existential fever dream about time travel and family ties. The Greek Weird Wave just got gloriously weirder.

The stunning new feature by filmmaker-composer Veslemes (*Panagas the Pagan* segment in *The Field Guide to Evil*, SFF 2018) exists in a place that is at once familiar and otherworldly. In a musty mansion, three young brothers are experimenting with a time machine that will bring back their long-dead mother. Drifting through this swirling psychedelic environment are livewire visitors Samantha (Sandra Abuelghanam) and Logo, an enigmatic presence played by French legend Dominique Pinon (*Diva, Delicatessen*). Time, space and memory adopt spectacularly strange guises in a mesmerising trip from the stable of executive producer and FMO bestie Ant Timpson (*Come to Daddy*, SFF 2019; *Censor*, SFF 2021).

Screens with *Dream Creep*

WAKE UP



WED 5 JUN 8:30 PM EV9 **18+**
THU 13 JUN 8:30 PM DNT1

Canada, France | 2023 | 81 mins | In English
 Australian Premiere
 Director: RKSS | Screenwriter: Alberto Marini | Producers: Laurent Baudens, Gaël Nouaille | Cast: Benny O. Arthur, Turlough Convery, Aidan O'Hare | Australian Distributor: STUDIOCANAL

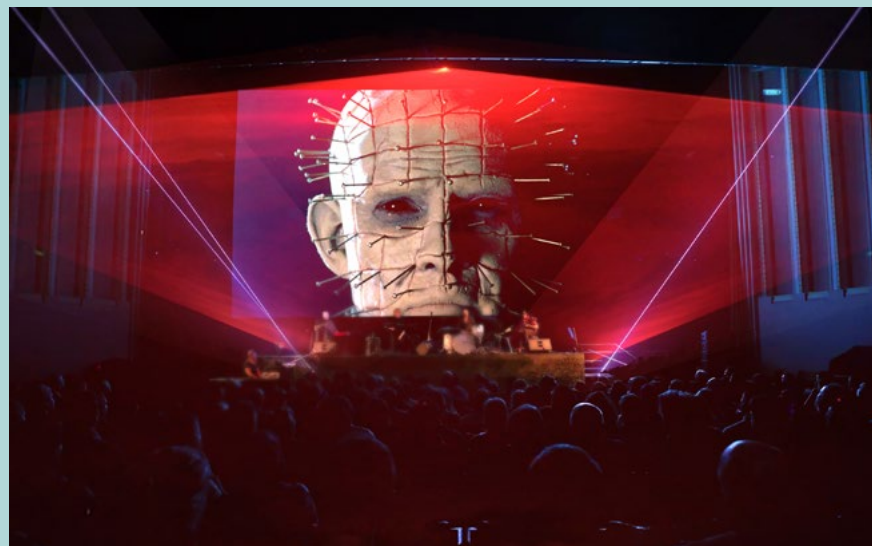
Genre giants RKSS (*Turbo Kid*, SFF 2015) return to FMO with a supreme slasher. Gen Z activists become the prey after breaking into a homeware megastore. This one delivers.

It's not that easy to find super stylish, gloriously gory and wickedly inventive slasher pics these days. Luckily, the crack Canadian filmmaking trio RKSS is here to satisfy that urge with a thoroughly modern riff on the Most Dangerous Game scenario. When young environmental activists bust into an IKEA-like store, everything goes according to plan – at first. But no one ran a background check on the overnight security guard, a sweaty social misfit with rage issues and a keen interest in primitive weapons. The spirit of Jim Wynorski's immortal *Chopping Mall* (1986) is alive and well here. Please do not reveal the ending!

Screens with *It Will Find You*

SPECIAL LIVE EVENT

HEAR MY EYES: HELLRAISER



WED 12 JUN 7:00 PM **18+**
LIVE AT CITY RECITAL HALL | TICKETS FROM \$69

UK, USA | 1987 | 94 mins | In English
 Director, Screenwriter: Clive Barker | Producer: Christopher Figg | Cast: Clare Higgins, Andrew Robinson, Doug Bradley

Experience Clive Barker's 1987 extra-dimensional horror classic, re-scored live by EBM explorers Hieroglyphic Being and Robin Fox, and synched laser-art show.

Hellraiser brought the horror genre out of the slasher era and into the realm of emotionally complex dread. A family with secrets. A mystical puzzle box. And a group of sadomasochistic beings threatening to break free from the mouth of hell. For this special event, *Hellraiser* gets a live rescore by Chicago's Hieroglyphic Being aka Jamal Moss. He's a man known for his intense psychedelic music, taking his cues from house, industrial, avant-jazz and noise. And he's composing alongside laser and audio artist Robin Fox, bringing his epic lasers for full sensory overload! One for EBM heads and Pinheads alike. A special film and live music event not to be missed or forgotten.

FREAK ME OUT SHORTS

DREAM CREEP

USA | 2024 | 13 mins | In English
 Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Carlos A.F. Lopez | Producer: Megan Leonard, Bobby McHugh, Jonathan Caso, Zeus Kontoyannis | Cast: Ian Edlund, Sidney Jayne Hunt
 Production Company: Lenny Pictures

Suzy's terrified voice cries out from her ear while she is asleep.

Screens with *She Loved Blossoms More*

EARWAX

Australia | 2024 | 5 mins | In English
 Director, Screenwriter, Producer: Jasper Martin | Cast: Billy White | Festival Contact: Jasper Martin

A sound designer's temporary deafness spirals out of control.

Screens with *Kill*

IT WILL FIND YOU

Australia | 2024 | 9 mins | In English and Gamilaraay with English subtitles
 World Premiere
 Directors, Screenwriters: Chris Broadbent, Enzo Tedeschi
 Producers: Chris Broadbent, Kelly Son Hing | Cast: Georgia Eyers, Leonie Whyman, Guyala Bayles
 Festival Contact: Enzo Tedeschi

A reporter interviews a convicted killer, with terrifying results.

Screens with *Wake Up*

LULLABY

UK | 2023 | 15 mins | In Vietnamese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director, Producer, Screenwriter: Chi Thai | Cast: Jan Le
 Festival Contact: Chi Thai

A refugee is haunted by a devastating incident from her past.

Screens with *Hunting Daze*

MEAT PUPPET

UK | 2024 | 12 mins | In English
 Australian Premiere
 Director, Screenwriter: Eros V | Producers: Leah Draws, Masha Thorpe | Cast: David Jonsson, Máiréad Tyers, Gregg Chillingirian | Production Company: Runt Films

A glove puppet makes Oz's life hell. Special Jury Award, SXSW Midnight Shorts 2024.

Screens with *The Paragon*

TRANSYLVANIE

France | 2023 | 15 mins | In French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
 Director: Rodrigue Huart | Screenwriters: Axel Würsten, Rodrigue Huart, David Alexander Cassan | Producer: Lucie Vigier | Cast: Katell Varvat, Emma Guatier, Lucien Le Ho | Sales Agent: Manifest

Bullied 10-year-old Ewa believes she is a vampire and is ready to prove it. Grand Jury Award, SXSW Midnight Shorts 2024.

Screens with *Cuckoo*

PLATFORM DEVELOPING PASSION PROJECTS PROCESS

On average, developing a film takes half a decade. Five years ago, Corona was a beer, TikTok was Musical.ly, and Apple released films on iTunes. To keep pace with industry and audience filmmakers must refresh not only their projects, but their creative process too.

For Film's Sake returns to the 71st Sydney Film Festival with Platform - a unique series of talent development programs designed to challenge Australia's best and brightest to invent, adapt and innovate, all in just one week. So join us in the SFF Hub and Belvoir Street Theatre to get a glimpse of film development done fast, furious and fearlessly.

To find out more, head to www.forfilmssake.org/platform



Platform is supported by Screen NSW, the WeirAnderson Foundation, Andrew Cameron AM & Cathy Cameron in conjunction with program partners Belvoir Street Theatre, Screenrights and the 71st Sydney Film Festival

Good Bad Things



SCREENABILITY

Celebrate the talents of film creatives with disability in this year's Screenability line-up. Australian premieres include *The Ride Ahead*, *The Stimming Pool*, an extraordinary immersion in the subjective experience of the neurodiverse; and *Good Bad Things*, an irresistible romantic drama and Slamdance 2024 winner.

Screenability is also proud to present three inspiring and inventive Australian short films.

Rebecca McCormack
Screenability Curator

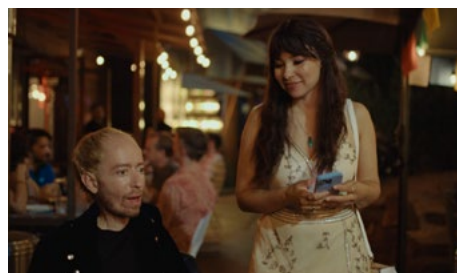


All films on this page are accessible:



Check sff.org.au for access details, including audio description and captioning.

GOOD BAD THINGS



SUN 9 JUN 2:00 PM DNT2
THU 13 JUN 6:00 PM DNT2

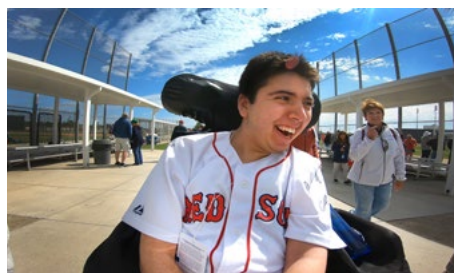
USA | 96 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Directors: Shane D. Stanger | Screenwriters: Shane D. Stanger, Danny Kurtzman | Producers: Shane D. Stanger, Mel McGinnis, Manny Gonzalez, Danny Kurtzman, Kyle Brady, Sean Crampton | Cast: Danny Kurtzman, Brett Dier, Jessica Parker Kennedy | Festival Contact: Shane D. Stanger

When Danny, a young man with muscular dystrophy, steps out of his comfort zone and into the world of online dating, an unexpected match sparks a journey of self-discovery. Slamdance 2024 winner.

Entrepreneur Danny (Danny Kurtzman, also co-writer) is feeling disillusioned with the world of online dating when he makes an unexpected connection with enigmatic photographer Madi (Jessica Parker Kennedy). Madi challenges him to step outside his comfort zone, taking Danny on a journey of self-acceptance and discovering the beauty of his unique body. Shane D. Stanger's debut – an extraordinary story of love, friendship and family – won an Audience Award and Unstoppable Grand Jury Prize at Slamdance 2024.

Screens with *Unstoppable*

THE RIDE AHEAD



SAT 8 JUN 3:15 PM DNT2
WED 12 JUN 6:30 PM DNT2

USA | 97 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Directors: Samuel Habib, Dan Habib | Producer: Dan Habib | Production Company: LikeRightNow Films

Samuel and Dan Habib's feature debut is a powerful coming-of-age story about holding onto dreams and exploring what the future holds for people living with disability.

21-year-old Samuel is curious about dating, sex, college, and living away from home. Determined to avoid the statistical realities faced by many disabled adults (including unemployment and institutionalisation), Samuel enlists some of America's most well-known and rebellious disability advocates and asks their advice on how he can achieve his dreams. Produced by James Lebrecht and Sara Bolder (*Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution*), *The Ride Ahead* includes interviews with US author and pioneering disability rights advocate Judith Heumann, alongside human rights activist and Krip-Hop artist Keith Jones.

Screens with *Rehabilitating*

THE STIMMING POOL



SAT 15 JUN 4:00 PM DNT2
SUN 16 JUN 2:15 PM DNT2

UK | 67 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
Directors: Benjamin Brown, Georgia Bradburn, Sam Chown-Ahern, Robin Elliott-Knowles, Lucy Walker, Steven Eastwood | Producers: Chloe White, Steven Eastwood | Festival Contact: Indox

Blending live action and animation, *The Stimming Pool* takes audiences on a visceral journey as five filmmakers share their individual neurodiverse experience. Lensed by Aftersun DOP Gregory Oke.

What is everyday life like for the neurodivergent? *The Stimming Pool* weaves together the stories of a film buff, an office worker, and other people living with autism, brilliantly capturing the sensory experience of a neurodivergent person faced, say, with a raucous pub. Co-created by the Neurocultures Collective – made up of five neurodiverse filmmakers – this profoundly immersive film was shot on 16mm on the streets of the UK. The images exert a hypnotic pull, drawing us into the lives of people determined to thrive in a chaotic world that sees them as different.

Screens with *Threshold*

SCREENABILITY SHORTS

REHABILITATING

Australia | 16 mins | In English
Director, Screenwriter: Inez Playford | Producer: Freya Brunning | Festival Contact: Freya Brunning

A woman with chronic pain is stuck in a rehab hospital, unable to leave until she can find a way out of her fears and pain with the help of a new friend.

Screens with *The Ride Ahead*

THRESHOLD

Australia | 8 mins | In English and Auslan with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter, Festival Contact: Sofya Gollan | Producer: Rhianna Spooner

A deeply personal exploration of what it means to have a little machine – a hearing aid – as part of your body, *Threshold* offers a vivid sensory portrait of the Deaf experience.

Screens with *The Stimming Pool*

UNSTOPPABLE

Australia | 15 mins | In English | World Premiere
Directors, Festival Contact: Jack Byrnes, Marcus Porcaro | Screenwriters: Adam Ciancio, Jack Byrnes, Marcus Porcaro | Producers: Tom Davies, Jack Byrnes, Marcus Porcaro, Sam Tait

A paraplegic former defence contractor (played by Paralympian skier Sam Tait) must reclaim his strength and self-belief to survive in this high-octane cat-and-mouse action-thriller.

Screens with *Good Bad Things*



Conspiracy

FLUX: ART+FILM

FLUX: ART+FILM explores the fertile ground between art and cinema, with radical and innovative films by artists who transform our experience of what cinema can be.

Ruby Arrowsmith-Todd and Dr. Harriet Johnson, Guest Programmers

THE BALLAD OF SUZANNE CÉSAIRE



THU 6 JUN 8:20 PM PALC1 ALL AGES
FRI 14 JUN 6:00 PM PALC1

USA | 2024 | 75 mins | In English and French with English subtitles
Director: Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich | Screenwriters: Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich, Marina Magloire | Producers: Sophie Luo, Mike S. Ryan | Cast: Zita Hanrot, Josué Gutiérrez, Motell Gyn Foster | Festival Contact: Sophie Luo

How to tell the story of an artist who didn't want to be remembered? Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich assembles fragments to piece together the life of French-Martinican surrealist Suzanne Césaire.

Suzanne Césaire was a key figure in the Négritude movement, co-founding the dissident journal *Tropiques* while living on blockaded Martinique during World War II. Yet her brilliance has historically been eclipsed by a focus on her male associates: her famous husband, Aimé Césaire (Martinique's former President), and surrealist poet André Breton. Inspired by the experimental form of Césaire's surviving writings, Hunt-Ehrlich deconstructs the biopic genre, acknowledging the impossibility of reviving a legacy that was wilfully erased.

Screens with *Conspiracy*

FLUX: ART+FILM SHORT

CONSPIRACY



USA | 2022 | 25 mins | In English
Directors: Madeleine Hunt-Ehrlich, Simone Leigh
Producer: Sophie Luo | Cast: Simone Leigh, Lorraine O'Grady, Kimari Hazard | Festival Contact: Matthew Marks Gallery

A stunning short about sculptor Simone Leigh which pays further tribute to the unsung labour of Black female artists.

Screens with *The Ballad of Suzanne Césaire*

GET MORE
THAN JUST
SPACE

CITY OF SYDNEY CREATIVE STUDIOS

Sound-Proof Music Recording & Production Studios | Post-Production Editing Suites | Screening Rooms
Podcast Studios | Visual Arts Studios
Rehearsal Rooms

The one-stop shop for all your creative needs right in the heart of the city.

- Access to industry technicians and equipment all included in affordable venue hire cost.
- Open late 7 days a week to accommodate creative work schedules.

Book now at brandx.org.au
119 Bathurst Street, Sydney



SUPPORTED BY
CITY OF SYDNEY



BRAND 

THE SOLDIER'S LAGOON

LA LAGUNA DEL SOLDADO



SUN 9 JUN 4:15 PM PALC1 15+
WED 12 JUN 8:25 PM PALC1

Canada, Colombia | 2024 | 76 mins | In Spanish with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter, Producer: Pablo Álvarez Mesa
Sales Agent: Pascale Ramonda

Set high in the Andean mountains, this exquisite documentary navigates a dense fog that links Colombia's past with its present, tracing revolutionary leader Simón Bolívar's journey into the wetlands.

Mist hangs over the páramo, a region of high-altitude marshes where, in 1819, Bolívar led his army in the fight for liberation from Spanish rule. Shot in 16mm, with dazzling in-camera effects, the film follows Bolívar's passage while Álvarez Mesa simultaneously explores the intersection of political events with the ecosystems that host them. A chorus of voices bring forth Indigenous and non-Indigenous perspectives on colonial history, animating the páramo as a living and elusive archive.

SOUNDTRACK TO A COUP D' ETAT



FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM PALC1 15+
THU 13 JUN 8:20 PM PALC1

Belgium, France, Netherlands | 2024 | 150 mins
In French, English, Dutch and Russian with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter: Johan Grimonprez | Producers: Rémi Grellety, Daan Milius | Australian Distributor: Madman Entertainment

A bravura cinematic essay that plays like a thriller, intertwining the story of jazz with the history of colonial machinations in the Congo. Nina Simone and Louis Armstrong feature in this Sundance winner.

Grimonprez's award-winning documentary (Special Jury Award for Cinematic Innovation, Sundance) homes in on the '60s, when America sent jazz icons Louis Armstrong, Nina Simone, and Dizzy Gillespie as 'goodwill ambassadors' to Africa to distract from the earlier CIA-backed assassination of Congolese prime minister Patrice Lumumba. With stylised flair, the film shows that "America's secret weapon is a blue note in a minor key." Yet jazz wasn't just a decoy. Deftly collaging archival footage and home movies, Grimonprez traces a counter history in which Black American artists protested U.S. imperialism and built international solidarity with decolonial movements.

Ousmane Sembène on the set of *Moolaadé*



OUSMANE SEMBÈNE: A REVOLUTIONARY WITH A CAMERA

BLACK GIRL LA NOIRE DE...



SAT 8 JUN 12:45 PM AGNSW 15+
Senegal | 1966 | 59 mins | In Wolof and French with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producer: André Zwoboda | Cast: Mbissine Thérèse Diop, Anne-Marie Jelinek, Robert Fontaine | Print Source/Rights: Janus Films

The true story of a young Senegalese girl who moves to France to work as a nanny, but is soon treated as a slave. Sembène's first feature film took him, and African cinema, to international acclaim.

Based on a short story written by Sembène himself, *Black Girl* follows a painfully shy young Senegalese woman recruited as a nanny for a French family. The heartrending character is wonderfully performed by the outstanding non-professional Mbissine Thérèse Diop as Diouana. Whilst she is initially excited at the appointment, Diouana's relocation to Antibes for work uncovers a hidden side to her employers, and she is slowly forced into the role of a domestic slave. *Black Girl* is startling and harrowing, a domestic horror story revealing the injustices of colonialism.

Screens with *Borom Sarret*

MANDABI



SAT 8 JUN 2:30 PM AGNSW 15+
Senegal | 1968 | 91 mins | In French and Wolof with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producer: Robert de Nesle | Cast: Makhourédia Guèye, Youssef N'Diaye, Isseu Niang | Australian Distributor: STUDIOCANAL

Winner of the Special Jury Prize at Venice Film Festival 1968 and considered the first feature-length film in an African language, *Mandabi* (SFF 2021) is regarded as one of Sembène's most significant works.

Ibrahima Dieng (Makhourédia Guèye) is a lazy, pompous man with two hard-working and obedient wives Mety and Aram (Youssef N'Diaye and Isseu Niang) and little money. But Dieng suddenly receives a money order from his nephew, a street cleaner in France, for 20,000 francs. He immediately realizes, however, that he cannot cash it because he does not have identity documents, and a bureaucratic nightmare begins. Shot with stark simplicity, this beautifully restored print renders the vivid colours and the 1960s architecture of Dakar utterly tangible.

This screening will be followed by a talk by Curator Keith Shiri.

EMITAÏ



SUN 9 JUN 10:15 AM AGNSW 15+
Senegal, France | 1971 | 103 mins | In Diola and French with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Cast: Andongo Diabon, Michel Renaudeau, Robert Fontaine | Print Source/Rights: Janus Films

Set in Sembène's home territory of Casamance, *Emitaï* is a deceptively simple story of resistance and rebellion chronicling historical oppression by the French in West Africa.

During the Second World War, French troops arrive in a Diola village to enlist the men and confiscate the rice. Instead of submitting to the French tax, the women hide their harvest. The situation worsens as the French resort to violence, firing on local villagers. The Diola elders soon decide on the best response to the increasingly harsh French policies: to consult and pray to Emitaï, the god of thunder. An electrifying narrative of rebellion and revolt, *Emitaï* marked the first in a series of films from Sembène on anti-colonial resistance.

XALA



SUN 9 JUN 12:30 PM AGNSW 15+
Senegal | 1975 | 123 mins | In French and Wolof with English subtitles
Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producer: Paulin Soumanou Vieyra | Cast: Thierno Leye, Suene Samb, Myriam Niang | Print Source/Rights: Janus Films

Xala (SFF 1976) is a brilliantly funny satire set in post-colonial Senegal, displaying Sembène's scepticism about his country's new dawn after independence from France.

Thierno Leye plays El Hadj, a middle-aged Senegalese businessman who sits on the Dakar Chamber of Commerce. The members of the board have inherited their positions from their departing European overlords – but they're corrupt, quietly bought off with briefcases full of cash. El Hadj decides to marry a third wife, but on the evening of the wedding he suddenly discovers himself impotent (*xala* translates to sexual impotence in Wolof). Thinking he's cursed, he goes to various healers, but without results. Based on the novel of the same name by Sembène, this film upset the government so much that 11 cuts were made before it was released in Dakar.

Ousmane Sembène is considered one of the most important revolutionary artists of his generation. His body of work in literature and film inspired many African filmmakers and defined post-colonial Africa.

Born in 1923 in Casamance, southern Senegal, he was expelled from school in 1936 for indiscipline, and was unable to follow his father's trade as a fisherman, as he was always seasick. He then opted to work as an apprentice mechanic and a bricklayer before he got drafted into the French army to liberate France from German occupation.

After the Second World War, unemployed, Sembène left Dakar and moved to Marseille, where he laboured as a dockworker – resulting in a broken back caused by offloading a ship. He later joined the trade union and worked to educate and liberate a community of mostly illiterate African immigrants working on the dockyard.

After 12 years spent working in Marseille as a docker, Sembène returned to his native land, where he devoted most of his time to writing and published 10 novels. He soon realised that his intended audience's level of illiteracy was too high, however, and only a handful of his people were able to have access to his work. At nearly 40, Sembène got a scholarship to study filmmaking at the Gorky Film Studio in Moscow, where he was mentored by the Ukrainian film director Mark Donskoy.

On his return to Senegal, Sembène began experimenting by making films reacting to the poverty and desperate social conditions in his country. Armed with an old Soviet camera that was gifted to him, Sembène directed his first feature film *Black Girl* (1966), the follow-up to his award-winning short film *Borom Sarret* (1963). He will forever be remembered for ushering in a new wave of African filmmaking.

Introduction and film notes by **Keith Shiri**, Curator.

Keith Shiri will introduce most sessions and take questions following the screening of Mandabi on 8 June.

Retrospective presented by Sydney Film Festival in association with ACMI

acmi

OUSMANE SEMBÈNE SHORTS

BOROM SARRET

Senegal, France | 1963 | 18 mins | In Wolof and French with English subtitles

Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producer: Ousmane Sembène | Cast: Ly Abdoulay, Albourah
Print Source/Rights: Janus Films

***Borom Sarret* (SFF 2015) is Ousmane Sembène's debut film, often hailed as one of the most significant short films ever made – and one that paved the way for African cinema.**

Borom Sarret (Wolof name for “wagoner”) is the story of a poor cart driver who loses almost everything he owns in a single day. He offers people rides into town, and only sometimes do they pay him the fare. He gets confronted by a rich customer demanding to be taken to a suburb where horse driven carts are prohibited and inevitably the police stop him and confiscate his cart. This portrait of a working man recalls neorealist classics such as *Bicycle Thieves* and marked the arrival of a major new talent.

Screens with *Black Girl*

NIAYE

Senegal, France | 1964 | 29 mins | In French and Wolof with English subtitles

Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producer: Ousmane Sembène | Cast: Serigne Sow, Astou N'Diaye, Mame Dia | Print Source/Rights: Janus Films

Adopted from Sembène's own novel *White Genesis*, *Niaye* is a short film about a 13-year-old girl from a small village whose pregnancy scandalizes her community. Though a visiting worker is accused of impregnating her, the father of the young woman's baby is, in fact, her own father. Sembène offers a vital portrait of a village in moral decline.

Screens with *Moolaadé*

TAUW

Senegal, USA | 1970 | 24 mins | In French and Wolof with English subtitles

Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producers: Paulin Vieyra, Herbert F. Lowe | Cast: Mamadou M'Bow, Amadi Dieng, Fatim Diagne | Print Source: Janus Films | Rights: National Council of Churches/Presbyterian Historical Society

One of Sembène's early short films, *Tauw* tells the story of two brothers in the generation after independence. An unemployed 20-year-old must deal with a stifled job market in urban Senegal, while 11-year-old Ouman must confront the contradictions of his religious instruction. *Tauw* dramatises how unprepared the brothers are to face the realities presented by a changing society. Although the story is a simple one, it is forcefully drawn and utterly poignant.

Screens with *Ceddo*

CEDDO



MON 10 JUN 10:15 AM AGNSW 15+

Senegal | 1977 | 117 mins | In Wolof, Arabic, English and Dyula with English subtitles

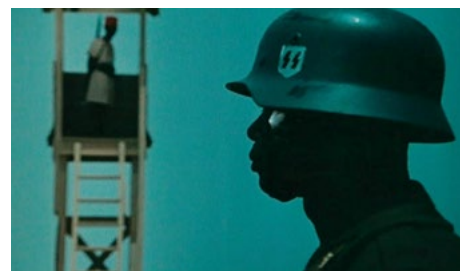
Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producer: Ousmane Sembène | Cast: Tabata Ndiaye, Alioune Fall, Moustapha Yade | Print Source/Rights: Janus Films

Historical epic *Ceddo* (SFF 1978) remains Ousmane Sembène's most controversial film, strongly indicting both Islam and Christianity and showcasing the traditional African religion that came before them.

Set in an unspecified period between the 17th and 19th centuries, the film focuses on the Ceddo – “the people of refusal” who rejected a regime that has become complicit in the rise of Islamic fanaticism, and the slow but lasting spread of slavery and Euro-American colonialism. ‘Ceddo’ was the name given to the holders of African spiritualism before it became tinged with Islam or Christianity. When villagers sense that their traditional religion is being threatened by white traders and missionaries, they kidnap Princess Dior and demand an immediate change in the management of the political system.

Screens with *Tauw*

CAMP DE THIAROYE



SAT 15 JUN 10:30 AM AGNSW 15+

Senegal, Algeria, Tunisia | 1988 | 153 mins | In Wolof, French, English and German with English subtitles

Directors, Screenwriters: Ousmane Sembène, Thierno Faty Sow | Producers: Mustafa Ben Jemja, Mamadou Mbengue, Ouzid Dahmane | Cast: Sidiki Bakaba, Hamed Camara, Ismaila Cissé | Print Source/Rights: Doriane Films

Winner of the Special Jury Prize at Venice 1988, this uncompromising historical epic tells the story of Senegalese WWII veterans who were betrayed under French colonial rule. Based on true events.

Senegal, 1944. African infantry soldiers who valiantly fought in Europe against the Nazis must now be paid and repatriated to their countries. They arrive at the Thiaroye marshaling camp, on the outskirts of Dakar. But the veterans soon realize that they will be paid much less than they were promised. The men rebel, but this will not stop the massacre that awaits them at the hands of French forces. A searing story with brilliant performances, *Camp de Thiaroye* chronicles history that should not be forgotten.

GUELWAAR



MON 10 JUN 1:00 PM AGNSW 15+

Senegal, France, Germany, USA | 1992 | 115 mins | In Wolof and French with English subtitles

Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producers: Ousmane Sembène, Jacques Perrin | Cast: Marie Augustine Diatta, Ndiawar Diop, Omar Seck | Print Source/Rights: Janus Films

A mysterious death triggers familial and societal tension. This razor-sharp satirical drama demonstrates Sembène's dexterity in crafting richly human stories within deeply complex social discussions.

Guelwaar, a political firebrand, dies mysteriously after a fiery speech. He was an important leader in the fight against foreign aid, the reliance on which he saw as debilitating. Now he is dead, the body is given a wrong tag, and Guelwaar – despite his Catholicism – is mistakenly buried in a Muslim cemetery. His family gathers: a daughter who works as a sex worker in Dakar returns, and an older son flies in from France. A fierce dispute breaks out which underlines the still considerable importance of the ritual and allows Sembène to denounce an Africa that venerates the gifts of foreign benefactors.

MOOLAADÉ PROTECTION



SUN 16 JUN 10:30 AM AGNSW 15+

Senegal, Burkina Faso, Morocco, Tunisia, Cameroon, France | 2004 | 124 mins | In Bambara and French with English subtitles

Director, Screenwriter: Ousmane Sembène | Producers: Thierry Lenouvel, Ousmane Sembène | Cast: Fatoumata Coulibaly, Maimouna Hélène Diarra, Salimata Traoré | Print Source/Rights: Ciné-Sud Promotion

An impassioned, uplifting and rousing story about one courageous mother who fights against the practice of genital mutilation.

Collè Ardo (Fatoumata Coulibaly) is the only one in her village who has refused to allow her 15-year-old daughter to be circumcised. One day, four little girls go to the woman's house and ask her for *moolaadé* – or protection, because they don't want to suffer the ordeal either. The woman holds a rope at the entrance to her hut that no one will be able to pass through. The village is in turmoil, united against Collè Ardo as she tries to resist and assert her own rights – and those of the girls.

Screens with *Niaye*



True Love



Dogfight



Household Saints

NANCY SAVOCA: TRUE LOVE STORIES

As a new generation discovers *The Sopranos*, *Moonstruck*, *Saturday Night Fever*, *The Godfather*, *Raging Bull* – the iconic films and television about the Italian-American experience in the 20th century – it's a great time to explore that same experience from a female perspective.

Nancy Savoca was born in the Bronx to immigrant parents, an Argentinian mother and a Sicilian father, and raised “full, full, full” Catholic by her own admission. Before she'd even finished film school at NYU, Savoca had already discovered a novel she was determined to adapt for the screen; one that spoke to her life and upbringing so deeply that she considered it biographical.

Ten years later, with two shorts and two features already under her belt, that determination resulted in a film widely regarded as one of the best of the year. In his four-star review, Roger Ebert praised *Household Saints* for being “closer to the literal truth of those days than many non-Catholics will believe.” Despite being embraced by critics, the film fell through the cracks in the transition from VHS to DVD and was seemingly lost until a beautiful new restoration through Kino Lorber and Milestone Films – which will make its Australian premiere at the Festival.

Also screening in this program are four more stories of love and heartbreak that confirm Savoca's auteur bona fides: her 1989 Sundance winner *True Love*, 1991's much-loved *Dogfight* starring River Phoenix and Lili Taylor, as well as her newly restored and award-winning '80s short films *Renata* and *Bad Timing*.

Introduction and film notes by **Melba Proestos**

TRUE LOVE



WED 12 JUN 7:00 PM AGNSW
SAT 22 JUN 6:00 PM DNT3

USA | 1989 | 104 mins | In English
Director: Nancy Savoca | Screenwriters: Nancy Savoca, Richard Guay | Producers: Shelley Houis, Richard Guay
Cast: Annabella Sciorra, Ron Eldard, Aida Turturro
Print Source/Rights: KinoLorber

Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance 1989 – in a competition that included *Sex, Lies, and Videotape* – this story of an Italian-American wedding is Nancy Savoca's impressive feature directorial debut.

A young couple, Michael (Ron Eldard, *Black Hawk Down*) and Donna (Annabella Sciorra, *The Sopranos*), are frantically preparing for their wedding in the Bronx. Before they make it down the aisle, they must face the societal pressure and gender expectations that dictate their every move – not to mention their own commitment issues. Set in dive bars, pizzerias, and living rooms, *True Love* offers a nuanced and funny meditation on modern marriage. This seminal work heralded the arrival of a fresh voice in cinema and marked an important contribution to the '90s indie movement.

Screens with *Renata*

DOGFIGHT



THU 13 JUN 8:15 PM DNT3
SUN 23 JUN 4:00 PM DNT3

USA | 1991 | 93 mins | In English
Director: Nancy Savoca | Screenwriter: Bob Comfort
Producers: Peter Newman, Richard Guay | Cast: River Phoenix, Lili Taylor, Richard Panebianco
Australian Distributor: Roadshow Entertainment

River Phoenix, sporting a short back and sides, stars opposite Lili Taylor (*Household Saints*) in an epic, bittersweet love story set against the backdrop of the looming Vietnam war.

Mousy waitress and aspiring musician Rose (Taylor) reluctantly accepts a date with the devilishly charming marine recruit Eddie Birdlace (Phoenix), unaware that he's participating in a “dogfight” – a bet with his friends to bring the ugliest girl to the party. As the night unfolds and the cruel game is revealed, Eddie's initial insensitivity gives way to unexpected tenderness as the pair share a night that will remain etched in their memories. The next morning, Eddie ships out to Vietnam. Aided by evocative performances and a soundtrack that captures the mood of the moment (Muddy Waters, Van Morrison, and Pete Seeger), Savoca tells a uniquely arresting love story that has maintained its cult status.

Screens with *Bad Timing*

HOUSEHOLD SAINTS



SUN 16 JUN 2:00 PM AGNSW
SUN 23 JUN 6:15 PM DNT3

USA | 1993 | 124 mins | In English and Italian with English subtitles
Director: Nancy Savoca | Screenwriters: Richard Guay, Nancy Savoca | Producers: Richard Guay, Peter Newman
Cast: Tracey Ullman, Vincent D'Onofrio, Lili Taylor
Print Source/Rights: KinoLorber

A butcher and the wife he wins in a card game have a miracle baby in this star-studded (Vincent D'Onofrio, Tracey Ullman, Lili Taylor) indie gem that spans three generations in Little Italy.

Adapted from a book by Francine Prose that director Nancy Savoca discovered while in film school at NYU, and executive produced by Jonathan Demme, the lauded *Household Saints* missed the transition from VHS to DVD and languished out of print until this beautiful new restoration. Savoca was raised defiantly Catholic, and this is the most personal of her films. Rich with metaphor and packed with layered, against-type performances by the whole cast (including Judith Malina, Michael Imperioli, Michael Rispoli and Victor Argo), the film was shot on a Lower East Side set originally built for Michael Cimino's *Year of the Dragon*. *Household Saints* perfectly captures the spirit and spirituality of the Italian-American experience.

NANCY SAVOCA SHORTS

BAD TIMING

USA | 1982 | 24 mins | In English
Director, Screenwriter: Nancy Savoca | Producers: Richard Guay, Nancy Savoca | Cast: Kelly Cinnante, Joey D'Arelli, Chris Cooper, Marianne Leone
Print Source/Rights: KinoLorber

A heartfelt and charming coming-of-age story as well as a tale of unrequited first love, Nancy Savoca's second short film marked the screen debut of Academy Award-winner Chris Cooper.

Screens with *Dogfight*

RENATA

USA | 1982 | 16 mins | In English
Director, Screenwriter: Nancy Savoca
Producer: Richard Guay | Cast: Marianne Leone, Jo Deodato Clark, Carla Wynn | Print Source/Rights: KinoLorber

Nancy Savoca's first short film is an intimate portrait of a young mother agonising over whether to pursue a divorce – or stay and suffer, as is expected of women in her Italian-American community. Featuring an all-female cast.

Screens with *True Love*

CLASSICS RESTORED

Watch these five classic films the way they were meant to be seen – on the big screen.



Rabbit-Proof Fence



THE CARS THAT ATE PARIS



THU 13 JUN 6:15 PM EV3 M

Australia | 1974 | 91 mins | In English
 Director, Screenwriter: Peter Weir | Producers: Jim McElroy, Hal McElroy | Cast: Terry Camilleri, John Meillon, Kevin Miles
 Festival Contact: National Film and Sound Archive

An outback town with a dark secret is the setting for this Aussie New Wave classic directed by Peter Weir. A beautiful 50th anniversary restoration presented by National Film and Sound Archive.

After surviving a car accident, Arthur is taken to hospital in Paris, NSW. He's welcomed by the local community but soon suspects something is amiss. Why do so many car crash victims keep arriving? And what kind of weird hold does the Mayor (the legendary John Meillon) have over his constituents? With its atmosphere of mounting dread and eye-popping production design, this journey into Australia's violent car culture marked a stunning feature debut for the great Australian filmmaker Peter Weir (*Picnic at Hanging Rock*, 1975; *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*, 2003). Screened at Cannes and SFF in 1974.

Festival Guest: Peter Weir

MISSISSIPPI MASALA



SAT 8 JUN 3:00 PM DNT3

M

USA | 1991 | 117 mins | In English
 Director: Mira Nair | Screenwriter: Sooni Taraporevala
 Producers: Mira Nair, Michael Nozik | Cast: Denzel Washington, Sarita Choudhury, Roshan Seth
 Print Source: Janus Films | Rights: Mirabai Films

Mira Nair's sumptuous 1991 classic stars Denzel Washington and Sarita Choudhury as an interracial couple in the South who fall in love despite family disapproval.

Mina (Choudhury) is an Indian immigrant to small-town Mississippi, a humble motel worker whose family was expelled from Uganda by Idi Amin. She meets Demetrius (Washington), the owner of a struggling cleaning business, when they get into a fender-bender. After an awkward start, a tender romance grows as they navigate the complex reactions of their families, the racism of the Deep South, as well as financial hardship. Washington and Choudhury's smouldering chemistry is infectious. Roshan Seth and Sharmila Tagore are outstanding as Mina's parents – their traumatic history, told via flashback, adds unusual richness to Nair's touching, beautifully crafted tale of multiculturalism, familial bonds and defiant love.

PEEPING TOM



SAT 8 JUN 8:15 PM DNT2
 SUN 9 JUN 3:00 PM AGNSW

M

UK | 1960 | 101 mins | In English
 Director, Producer: Michael Powell | Screenwriter: Leo Marks
 Cast: Karlheinz Böhm, Moira Shearer, Anna Massey
 Australian Distributor: STUDIOCANAL

Michael Powell's psychological thriller about a young man who films the murders he commits was critically savaged upon its release in 1960. It's now widely regarded as a masterpiece.

When the British press condemned *Peeping Tom*, Michael Powell's career was effectively ruined. In his 1986 autobiography, Powell wrote: "I make a film that nobody wants to see and then, thirty years later, everybody has either seen it or wants to see it." Long championed by filmmakers including Martin Scorsese, this fear-drenched tale of voyeurism and psycho-sexual desire now regularly appears on lists of the greatest British films ever made. Arriving in the same year as Norman Bates in *Psycho*, Powell's portrait of sociopathic film technician Mark Lewis (a superb Karlheinz Böhm) is a riveting study in what it means to make movies – and watch them. Also check out *Made in England: The Films of Powell and Pressburger*, narrated by Martin Scorsese and screening in the Festival (see page 29).

RABBIT-PROOF FENCE (4K RESTORATION)



MON 10 JUN 2:00 PM EV3

PG

Australia | 2002 | 94 mins | In English
 Director: Phillip Noyce | Screenwriter: Christine Olsen
 Producers: Phillip Noyce, Christine Olsen, John Winter
 Cast: Everlyn Sampi, Kenneth Branagh, Deborah Mailman
 Australian Distributor: Icon Film Distribution

Phillip Noyce's milestone escape epic about the Stolen Generations has been breathtakingly restored in 4K. Three extraordinary child actors lead a remarkable cast including David Gulpilil, Ningali Lawford, and Kenneth Branagh.

Western Australia, 1931. Three Indigenous girls are forcibly taken from their family and deposited on a mission school far from home. One day, ordered to empty the latrine bucket, they instead make a run for it, and the rain covers their tracks. David Gulpilil is extraordinary as the tracker on their tail, a trooper whose own daughter is detained at the school, while Kenneth Branagh plays Mr. Neville, determined to force assimilation. But the stars are Everlyn Sampi, Tianna Sansbury, and Laura Monaghan, each giving remarkably unaffected and very moving performances. Haunting and enraging; almost a quarter century since its release, this film is as relevant as ever.

Festival Guest: Phillip Noyce

Following the screening, join Phillip Noyce in conversation at the Festival Hub – a free event. See page 46

TEN CANOES



SAT 8 JUN 10:15 AM AGNSW

M

Australia | 2006 | 92 mins | In English and Yolngu Matha with English subtitles
 Directors: Rolf De Heer, Peter Djigirr | Screenwriter: Rolf De Heer | Producers: Rolf De Heer, Julie Ryan
 Cast: David Gulpilil, Jamie Gulpilil, Crusoe Kurddal
 Australian Distributor: Umbrella Entertainment

The first Australian feature filmed entirely in Indigenous languages, this modern classic by Rolf de Heer and Peter Djigirr (SFF Opening Night 2006) is a fable-like tale set in Arnhem Land long ago.

The legendary David Gulpilil narrates this unique mix of docudrama and mythmaking, telling the film's story-within-a-story with great charisma and humour. Gulpilil was also the driving force behind the production, inviting de Heer to the far north to collaborate with Yolngu creatives and actors. Gulpilil's son Jamie stars in a dual role: as Dayindi, a young man learning how to make bark canoes and hunt geese in the wetlands; and as Yeeralparil, the subject of an old parable of jealousy and its consequences. Wonderful performances bring out the playfulness – rarely have myths been this funny – while the hypnotic cinematography, alternating between striking black-and-white and lush colour, creates a sense of oral history coming to life.

Festival Guests: Peter Djigirr and Rolf De Heer

SHORT FILMS



The Feast

Short films offer some of the boldest and most experimental filmmaking around, and Sydney Film Festival is proud to present a diverse line-up of shorts sprinkled throughout the SFF71 program, from films by established masters and the stars of tomorrow. These shorts screen before features and documentaries.

The Short Film Program is proudly supported by the Director's Lab.

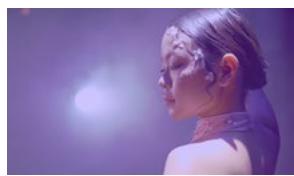
Find out about the Director's Lab here: sff.org.au/patron



MORE SHORTS:

Plus check out more short films in the First Nations Award line-up on **page 11**, Dendy Awards on **page 14**, bite sized frights in *Freak Me Out* on **page 37**, Screenability **page 38**, Ousmane Sembène shorts on **page 41**, Nancy Savoca shorts on **page 42**

DANCER



FRI 7 JUN 6:00 PM DNT2
SUN 9 JUN 4:30 PM DNT2

Australia, Mongolia | 2023
13 mins | In Mongolian and Mongolian Sign Language with English subtitles
Director: Nomin Gantulga
Screenwriters: Nomin Gantulga, Genevieve Clay-Smith
Producers: Genevieve Clay-Smith
Cast: Sergelen Batsukh, Otgonjargal Baatarkhuu, Amgalanbaatar Gochoodorj
Production Company: Bus Stop Films

Gerelee, a Deaf teenage girl, decides to follow her dreams and audition for a dance company, despite her father's protests.

Screens with *Rewards for the Tribe*, **page 30**

THE FEAST

VIRUNDHU



SAT 8 JUN 3:45 PM DNT1
MON 10 JUN 4:00 PM PNORT3
SUN 16 JUN 6:20 PM RITZ5

India | 2023 | 25 mins
In Tamil with English subtitles
Australian Premiere
Director: Rishi Chandna
Screenwriters: Rishi Chandna, Rahul Srivastava | Producers: Rahul Muralidharan, Rishi Chandna, Anita Arjundas, Jessica Seddon | Cast: Antony Janagi, George Vijay, Anbarasi
Festival Contact: Rishi Chandna

A fisherwoman determined to save a dying lake takes on a powerful local politician by cooking him a remarkable meal. A Special Jury Award winner at Clermont-Ferrand 2024 from director Rishi Chandna (*Tungrus*, SFF 2019).

Screens with *Wilding*, **page 31**

GROVE OF GIANTS



MON 10 JUN 5:30 PM DNT3
SAT 15 JUN 2:00 PM PALC1

Australia | 2023 | 11 mins
In English
Director, Producer: Bree Sanders
Festival Contact: Bree Sanders

The Huon Valley, Tasmania, contains the largest stand of old-growth blue gums in the world. But these towering ancient trees are scheduled for destruction. Can a passionate team of climbers and scientists prove the trees' immense capacity for environmental good before the axe falls?

Screens with *Black Snow*, **page 27**



Stockbroking | Wealth Management | Corporate Advice

Your financial future doesn't need the cliffhangers.

Morgans is proud to support the Sydney Film Festival. Over the last 40 years, we've directed success stories for our individual and corporate clients and raised capital for *Crocodile Dundee*. Get in touch about how we can support you.



OF THE LAST REEL IN FRONT OF YOU



SUN 9 JUN 6:15 PM RITZ5
THU 13 JUN 9:30 AM STATE

Australia | 2023 | 6 mins
In English | World Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Yan Geng
Producer: Wentian Jin
Australian Distributor: Australian Film, Television and Radio School

One of Sydney's last film projectionists, Alan Butterfield, reminisces about the past and contemplates the present. Alan has been an SFF projectionist since 1987.

Screens with *Thelma*, **page 25**

THE WAITING



SUN 9 JUN 2:15 PM PALC1
SUN 16 JUN 2:15 PM PALC1

Germany | 2023 | 15 mins
In English | Australian Premiere
Director: Volker Schlecht
Screenwriters: Max Mönch, Alexander Lahl | Producers: Volker Schlecht, Alexander Lahl, Max Mönch | Production Company: Fabian & Fred

Beautifully animated drawings vividly illustrate a biologist's research into the mysterious disappearance of various frog species in Central America's rainforests. Award winner at London International Animation FF, Hamptons FF and Sarasota FF.

Screens with *Among the Wolves*, **page 26**

WITHERED BLOSSOMS



FRI 7 JUN 6:15 PM EV3
SUN 9 JUN 8:15 PM DNT3
SAT 15 JUN 5:30 PM PNORT3

Australia | 2024 | 14 mins
In Mandarin with English subtitles
Australian Premiere
Director, Screenwriter: Lionel Seah
Producer: Miki Clarke | Cast: Stella Ye, Rachel Young
Australian Distributor: Australian Film, Television and Radio School

After attempting to conceal her separation from her long-term partner for weeks, a young woman finally visits her grandma. La Cinef Selection, Cannes 2024.

Screens with *Hesitation Wound*, **page 22**

SFFTV AT MARTIN PLACE

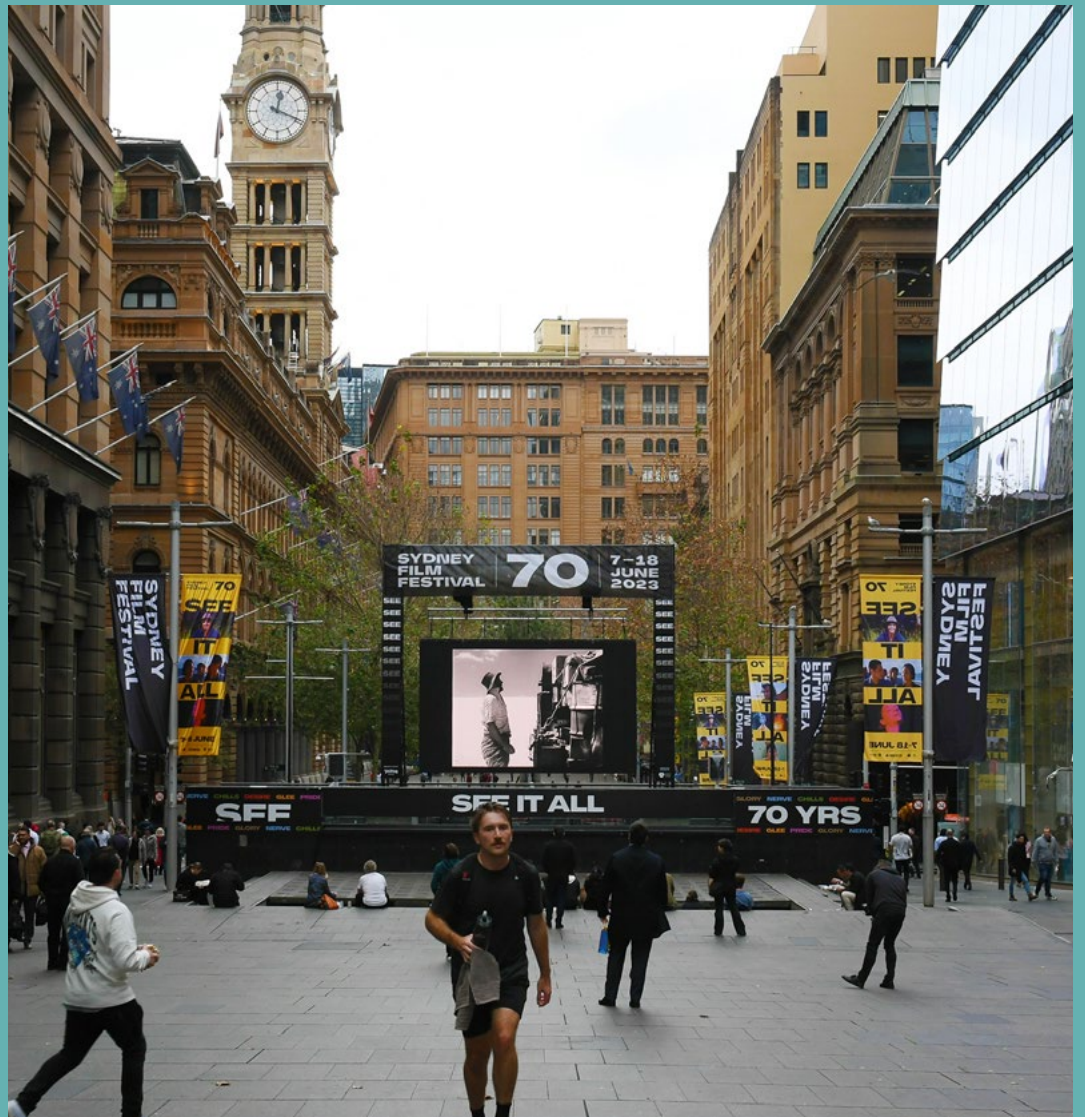
Stop by SFFTV, Sydney Film Festival's giant outdoor screen in Martin Place, for free screenings of acclaimed short films, previews of SFF 2024 films, and special activations.

FREE LUNCHTIME SCREENINGS

Drop by any day of the Festival at 12pm for a specially curated suite of acclaimed and amazing short films from Australia and around the world. There's even complimentary popcorn so you can have the full cinema experience!

RUSH TICKETS

Bargain hunting? Drop by between 11am and 2pm each day for \$10 rush tickets to select films screening that day – available only at SFFTV!



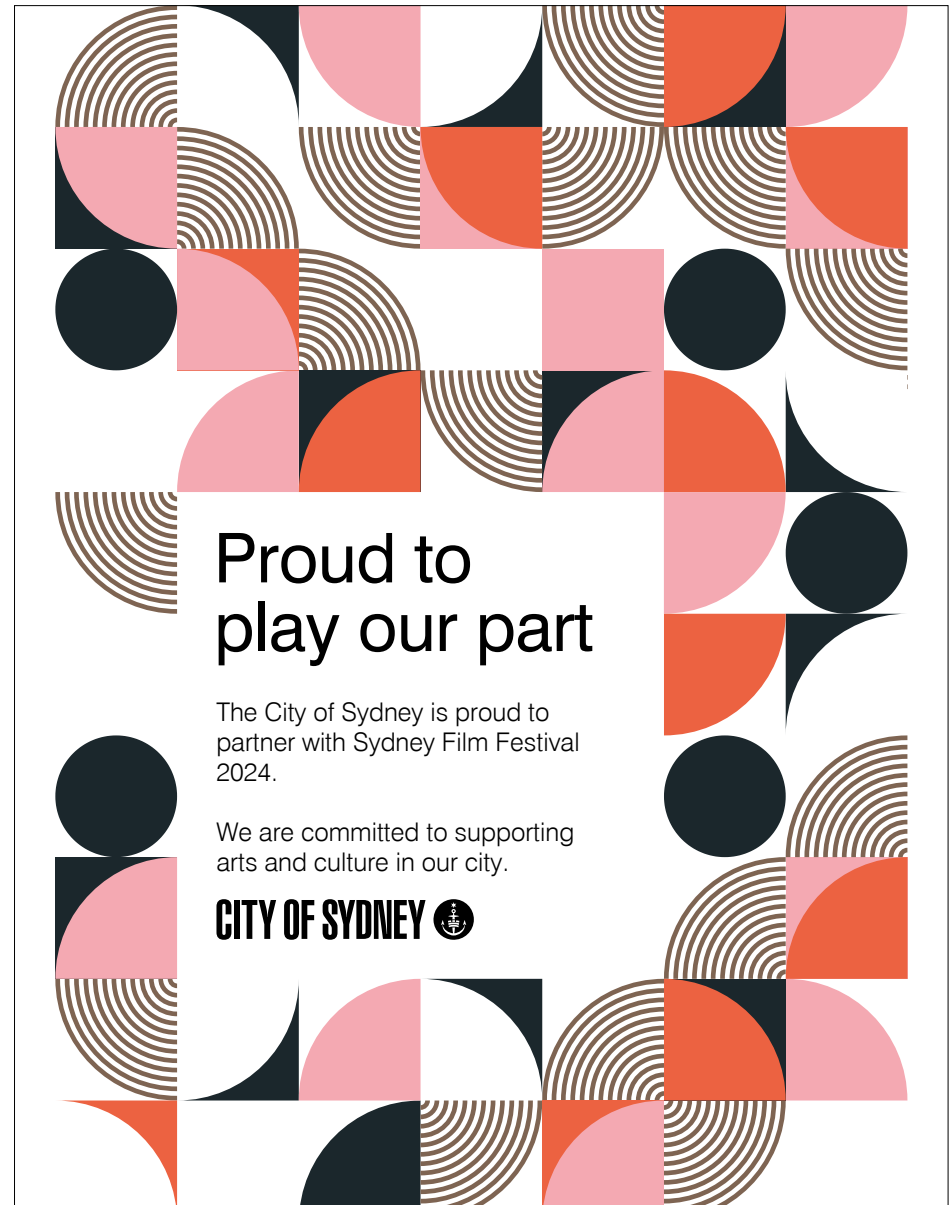
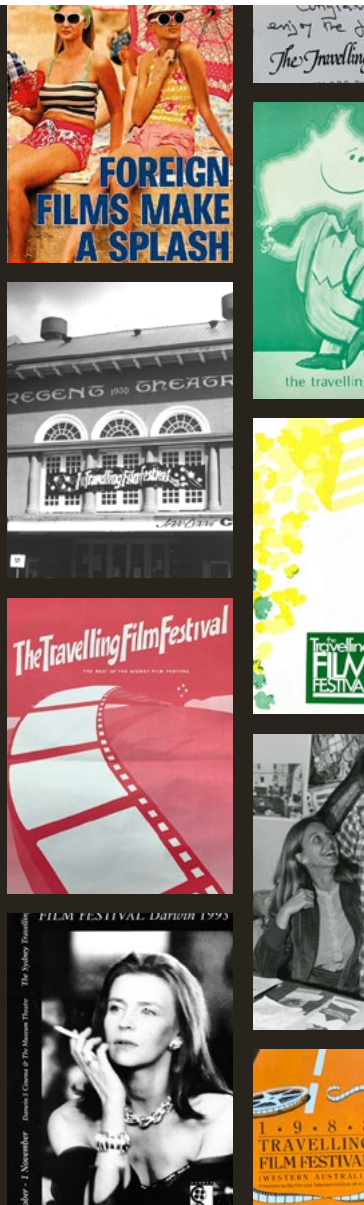
TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

TFF is Australia's longest running touring film festival, taking acclaimed films from around the world to regional cinemas for the last fifty years!

Thank you to the thousands of people who have celebrated great cinema with us around Australia at over 70 regional cinemas!

WE'LL BE BACK SOON!



Proud to play our part

The City of Sydney is proud to partner with Sydney Film Festival 2024.

We are committed to supporting arts and culture in our city.



THE HUB

Presented by **challenger** 



The Hub at Lower Town Hall puts the Festival in Sydney Film Festival. Drop in for a drink between films, grab a bite, and enjoy a swathe of special events, talks and parties. This is where you can celebrate cinema, debate your new favourite films, and meet the filmmakers this June.

You can also relax in the Challenger Lounge with a drink from one of our beverage partners – Mt Yengo Wines, Mountain Goat Beer, and Lyre's.

Travelling Film Festival turns 50 this year! Check out the special tribute on display at The Hub.

LOWER TOWN HALL
483 GEORGE ST, SYDNEY NSW 2000
ENTRY VIA DRUITT ST

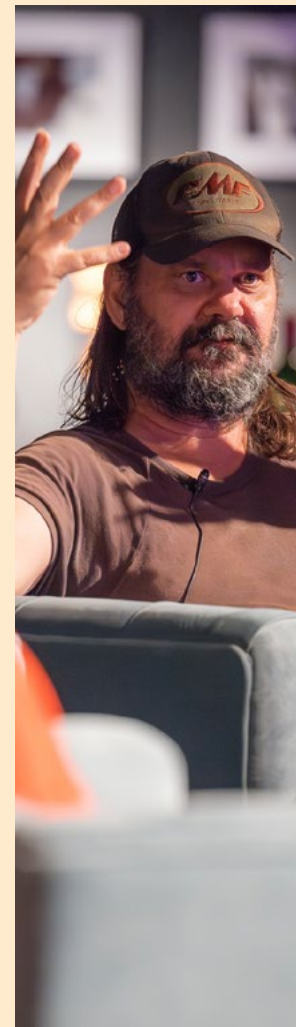
OPENING HOURS

PUBLIC HOLIDAY MONDAY	11:30 AM UNTIL LATE
TUESDAY – FRIDAY	4:30 PM UNTIL LATE
SATURDAY	11:30 AM UNTIL LATE
SUNDAY	11:30 AM UNTIL LATE

All events are FREE except those noted as ticketed.

HAPPY HOUR AT THE SFF BAR

Enjoy Happy Hour specials on selected beverages between 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM each day of the Festival.

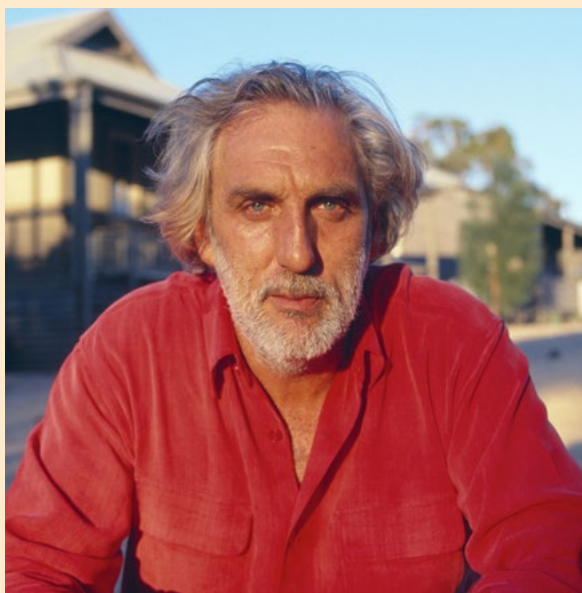


THE FILMMAKERS LOUNGE SUPPORTED BY



CONSTELLATION
CREATIVES

THE HUB SUPPORTING PARTNERS



IAN McPHERSON MEMORIAL LECTURE WITH PHILLIP NOYCE AO

PUBLIC HOLIDAY MON 10 JUNE 4:30 PM

FREE | THE HUB

The annual Ian McPherson Lecture is presented each year to celebrate the contribution of the man who helped establish the Sydney Film Festival. Following the screening of the 4K restoration of *Rabbit Proof Fence*, director and producer Phillip Noyce, winner of SFF's inaugural 1974 Rouben Mamoulian Award with *Castor and Pollux*, will discuss his illustrious career with filmmaker Muralikrishna Thalluri.

EVENTS AT THE HUB



QUEER CINEMA CELEBRATION

Co-hosted with Queer Screen
FRI 7 JUN 8:00 PM | FREE

Queer cinema is a celebration of a community, with stories as diverse as the community they represent. Meet fellow queer film fans at a fun and fabulous night of music and drinks, that pairs perfectly with the screening prior of *Problemista* starring Tilda Swinton and Julio Torres next door at Event Cinemas at 6.30PM.

OILS & 80s: A CELEBRATION

SUN 9 JUN 8:00 PM | FREE

If the World Premiere screenings of *Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line* have left you burning for more, join us at The Hub after a screening at the State Theatre for a night of power and passion, filled with the music of Midnight Oil and their contemporaries. Enjoy a complimentary drink on arrival until stock lasts!

SFF FILM TRIVIA NIGHT

WED 12 JUN 7:00 PM | FREE

Gather your favourite film friends, give us your best movie pun team name, and compete for glory, and great prizes, at the ultimate Film Trivia Night of the year! Drinks, good eats, laughs, and wails of "I knew it!" guaranteed. Hosted by film fanatic and comedian Alexei Toliopoulos.

THIRSTY THURSDAY: SONGS FROM THE SILVER SCREEN

Co-presented with
 Darlinghurst Theatre Company
THU 13 JUN 7:00 PM | \$46

Join us for a very special evening hosted by Andrew Bukonya, and enjoy a night of live music and revelry featuring your favourite songs from the silver screen. Headliner Olivia Vásquez, star of SFF 2024 film *The Sloth Lane*, and seen onstage in *Moulin Rouge!* and *West Side Story*, will kick off an enchanting night of emerging musical theatre stars.

KOREAN CINEMA CELEBRATION: NOLIJA!

Co-hosted with the
 Korean Cultural Centre Australia
FRI 14 JUN 7:30 PM | FREE

The most festive Korean cinema celebration returns in 2024! With K-Pop music, photo booth, hands-on activities, and more, enjoy the night filled with Korean Culture. Celebrate Korean culture and cinema, whether you're a long time Korean film fan, or planning on enjoying *Alienoid*, *It's Okay*, or *House of the Seasons* at SFF this year!

FREE TALKS

Keep an eye out online for updates on additional talks.

GENDER MATTERS: LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD

FRI 7 JUN 5:30 PM | THE HUB

Screen Australia's Gender Matters Taskforce was founded in 2016, with the aim of achieving gender parity in the screen industry. But in 2024, there's still progress to be made. What more can be done? Join Taskforce members Rosie Lourde, Nerida Moore and Lena Nahlous, for a deep dive into the state of Gender Parity in the industry, moderated by Grainne Brunson, Chief Operating Officer, Screen Australia. Stay around for a networking event afterwards and ask your burning questions direct to our panellists over a drink! Hosted by *WIFT*, *Screen Vixens* and *Gender Matters Taskforce*.

AI: BRAVE NEW WORK OR CREATIVE GRAVEYARD?

SAT 8 JUN 2:00 PM | THE HUB

With AI touted to empower writers, the Australian Writers' Guild explores the big questions with some of Australia's leading performance writers and academics. Is AI the upgrade we need, or a gateway to disaster? Join this fascinating discussion moderated by writer and journalist Benjamin Law on AI and its impact on original thinking and good writing practice.

FIRST NATIONS FILMS – A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

SUN 9 JUN 11:45 AM | THE HUB

Join First Nations producer, director and TIFF programmer Jason Ryle, *The Mountain* director Rachel House, and *The Moogai* producer, Mitchell Stanley, in conversation with the festival's First Nations Program Advisor Aaliyah Bradbury as they take a global perspective on First Nations storytelling.

DOING DEVELOPMENT DIFFERENTLY

THU 13 JUN 5:30 PM | THE HUB

Two thirds of moviegoers want more original movies and less than half agree that franchises are getting better. And yet our cinemas are inundated with sequels, prequels and remakes. Should writers and producers give up on original IP and start trawling the archives for inspiration? Join For Film's Sake's founder Sophie Mathisen and international industry disruptors as they explore how global filmmakers are navigating project development when market and industry support is hard to find.

FROM STAGEPLAY TO SCREENPLAY

FRI 14 JUN 4:00 PM | BELVOIR ST THEATRE

As part of Sydney Film Festival's partnership with Platform, and after a national callout, four emerging development creatives worked alongside Belvoir playwrighting fellows to adapt their existing theatrical works to screenplay format. Overseen by leading international development professionals, the initiative will culminate in a live table read by some of Sydney's leading lights, hosted at the Belvoir St Theatre.

THIS INDUSTRY IS NOT FOR ME: HOW TRAINING CAN KICK DOWN THE DOOR

SAT 15 JUN 10:30 AM | THE HUB

Sometimes the screen industry feels like a private members' club – all about who you know. In this conversation moderated by filmmaker Skye Leon and supported by AFTRS, practitioners and educators from all backgrounds talk about what the industry is really like, the barriers to entry, and how training can help kick the door down. They share advice on what they wish they'd known starting out, what opportunities exist for under-represented groups, and what it's like starting straight out of high school vs transitioning into the screen industry from another career.

PLATFORM PITCH – FOR FILM'S SAKE INCUBATOR

SAT 15 JUN 12:00 PM | THE HUB

Returns for the second year, after a successful launch in 2023. Mentored by SFF international film guests, 10 emerging filmmakers will be challenged to create new partnership and projects in just four days. The results of their efforts will be pitched live to an expert industry jury who will give immediate feedback with a live audience watching on.



RESTAURANT PARTNERS

FILM + DINE: DEALS FOR SFF TICKET HOLDERS

Dine like a star this June! We're teaming up with Sydney's best restaurants to treat our Sydney Film Festival family to exclusive offerings across the duration of the Festival.

Cafe Sydney is a proud partner of SFF and welcomes all Festival audiences.

HOW IT WORKS:

Book ahead and mention Sydney Film Festival Restaurant Partners or show your SFF ticket on arrival.

Dates are valid 5–16 June and are not available in conjunction with any other offers.

ABODE BISTRO. BAR



\$85 PP

THREE COURSE PRE-SCREENING MENU DESIGNED TO SHARE AND A FILM THEMED COCKTAIL.

PARKROYAL Darling Harbour,
150 Day Street, Sydney
02 9260 2945 | abodebistro.com

ABODE Bistro. Bar prides itself on cultivating an atmosphere that feels like stepping into the home of a close friend. Offering award-winning sharing dishes and an innovative drinks menu, ABODE boasts modern Australian cuisine with locally sourced ingredients. Nothing too formal here – just a group of film-goers gathering around a table, sharing good food and chatting about all things film.

Wheelchair accessible.

BAR 83



\$89 PP

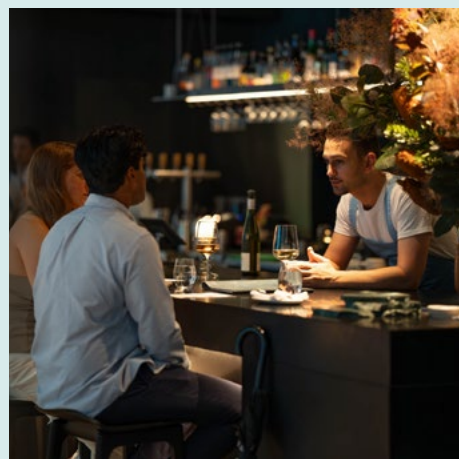
BOTTOMLESS LUNCH WITH COCKTAILS, WINE AND BEER PAIRED WITH CHEF-SELECTION DISHES. EVERYDAY FROM 12-3PM.

Located between Pitt & Castlereagh Streets, entry via Level 4 Westfield Sydney,
108 Market Street NSW 2000
1300 391 808 | bar83sydneytower.com.au

Bar 83 soars high above the city CBD, 83 floors above street level, in the iconic Sydney Tower. A striking décor, with subtle hints of retro nostalgia and spectacular floor-to-ceiling windows, affords sky-high revellers a 260-degree view of Sydney's glittering cityscape.

Wheelchair access is available, please contact our reservations team.

BEAU



\$40 PP

FESTIVAL EXCLUSIVE DINING: SPECIAL PASTA AND HOUSE WINE OR BEER

1 Fracks Ln, Surry Hills
02 9280 3395 | beau.sydney

An intimate two-part laneway restaurant offering contemporary Australian cuisine. Visit us pre or post movie and delve into a specially created pasta with a wine or beer as you enjoy the unique environment that is Beau. Our restaurant specialises in heralding local produce to create a dining experience you won't forget.

BRASSERIE 1930



\$70 PP

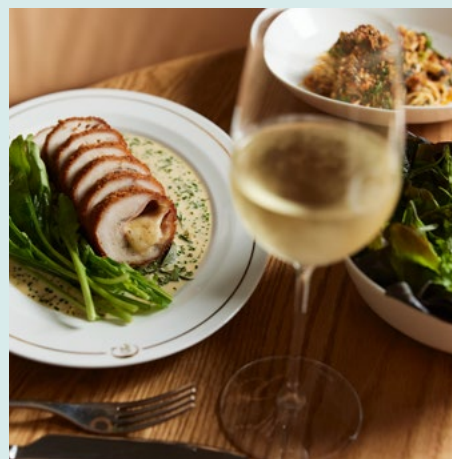
TWO-COURSE MEAL: ENTRÉE AND MAIN AVAILABLE FOR BOOKINGS AT 5:30 PM OR 5:45 PM

24 Loftus Street, Sydney
+61 2 9071 5000 | capellahotels.com/sydney

Recently awarded two chef's hats by the Good Food Guide, Capella Sydney's signature restaurant Brasserie 1930 delivers an elevated dining experience in consultation with The Bentley Group. Featuring modern brasserie classics and an extensive wine list, the menu celebrates the best in Australian produce highlighting small-batch farmers and growers.

Wheelchair access available from the Loftus Street entrance.

THE CHARLES GRAND BRASSERIE & BAR



\$45 PP

THE CHARLES BAR: SNACK WITH A CHOICE OF PASTA AND A GLASS OF WINE/BEER

\$75 PP

THE CHARLES BRASSERIE: TWO COURSES AND A GLASS OF WINE/BEER

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

66 King Street, Sydney
02 9265 6068 | thecharles.sydney

The Charles Brasserie and Bar are offering all Sydney Film Festival attendees an exceptional pre- & post-screening meal, designed to enhance your Festival experience. Enjoy a main dish with a glass of wine at the bar, or indulge in a spectacular two-course meal at the brasserie.

Wheelchair access from the Bar (corner York & King Streets) or through Sammy Junior (York Street).

ESQ BAR + DINING



\$60 PP

TWO-COURSE MEAL: SNACKS AND MAIN OR MAIN AND DESSERT

25% DISCOUNT ON ALL BEVERAGES EVERY NIGHT FROM 9 PM TO 10 PM

Shop 1-4 Level 2/455 George St, Sydney
02 8023 7609 | esqatqvb.com.au

The ESQ menu has been crafted with our take on the classics, drawing inspiration from the Prohibition era and utilising high-quality Australian produce. From small plates to happy hour and share plates to steaks, we have you covered.

Access to the level is via QVB lifts. The venue is wheelchair accessible.

FIX WINE BAR + RESTAURANT



\$49 PP
TWO COURSE MEAL INCLUDING A GLASS OF HOUSE WINE

111 Elizabeth Street, Sydney
(02) 9232 2767 | fixwine.com.au

A small 60-seat spot with a great little front bar where you can eat, drink and chat to the team. The focus is on quality seasonal produce in the kitchen, and the 250+ wine list showcases handcrafted – often natural – wines from around the globe.

Wheelchair accessible. No accessible restrooms.

GILDAS



A COMPLIMENTARY SEASONAL COCKTAIL

46-28 Albion Street, Surry Hills
02 8275 8285 | finkgroup.com.au

Inspired by Lennox Hastie's time in the foothills of the Basque country, Gildas is a homage to the original pintxo created in San Sebastian with three simple ingredients; a guindilla pepper, an olive, and an anchovy – a creation which coincided with the screening of the eponymous film starring the stunning Rita Hayworth, Gilda, at the San Sebastian Film Festival in 1946.

Visit any Sydney-based Fink restaurant – including Gildas, Firedoor, Quay, Bennelong, and OTTO – during Sydney Film Festival and receive a cocktail on us!

GLASS BRASSERIE



\$49 PP
ENJOY A PRE-SCREENING MEAL WITH A MAIN COURSE AND GLASS OF WINE

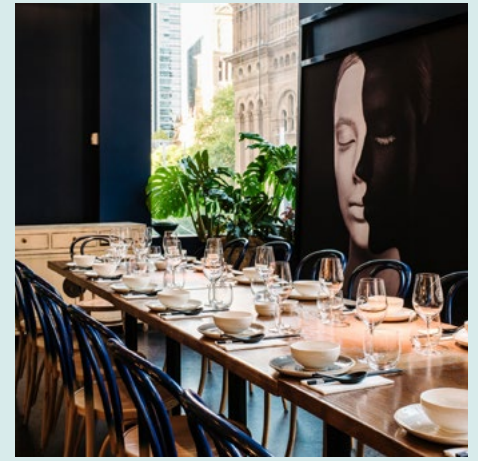
\$59 PP
TWO-COURSE MEAL: ENTRÉE AND MAIN, OR MAIN AND DESSERT

Level 2, 488 George Street
02 9265 6068 | glassbrasserie.com.au

Operated by renowned Australian chef and restaurateur Luke Mangan, glass brasserie is an award-winning restaurant and wine bar showcasing a wine list with over 1000 drops from around the globe. Dine in and soak up Sydney's vibrant atmosphere with friends, family, and loved ones.

Wheelchair access via lifts at George Street entrance or hotel lifts. Accessible restrooms on Level 2 of the hotel.

LOTUS THE GALERIES



\$55 PP
FIVE-COURSE MENU WITH GLASS OF WINE, 2-6 PEOPLE

NO DIETARY SUBSTITUTIONS.
SFF PATRONS ONLY.

The Galleries, Level 1, 500 George Street
02 9247 6868 | lotusdininggroup.com/the-galleries/

Lotus The Galleries is a contemporary Asian restaurant located in the heart of the Sydney CBD, across the road from Queen Victoria Building. Enjoy a large selection of handmade dumplings, our signature table-side Peking Duck, banquets and modern Asian dishes paired with an extensive wine list and refreshing cocktails.

Wheelchair accessible via elevator, with restrooms within and nearby the restaurant.

MAIZ



\$75 PP
PRE-THEATRE SET MENU
SIGNATURE MARGARITA
ENTREE AND MAIN EACH
+ DESSERT TO SHARE

Gluten Free/Vegan/Vegetarian/NoGO options available

33 Enmore Rd, Newtown
0466 077 804 | maizmexicanfood.com

Run and cooked by Mexicans on Gadigal land, MAIZ reflects a contemporary approach to traditional flavours, offering a wide variety of dishes with corn as their canvas. Having an in-house "No Taco Policy," they creatively showcase the other 99% percent of food found in Mexico rarely explored in Sydney.

MONOPOLE



\$55 PP
TWO-COURSE MENU: ENTRÉE AND MAIN

\$65 PP
THREE-COURSE MENU

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL – MUST VACATE TABLE BY 6:30PM FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

16 – 20 Curtin Place, Sydney
02 8080 9144 | monopolesydney.com.au

A fun and energetic bar and restaurant from the team behind Bentley Restaurant + Bar, boasting classic dishes with a Monopole twist. Plus a wine list featuring undiscovered local wine makers from Australia and across the globe.

Wheelchair access from 20 Hunter Street entrance.

REIGN



\$45 PP
EXPRESS LUNCH. CHOICE OF MAIN, SIDE AND HOUSE WINE.

Level 1, Queen Victoria Building
455 George Street Sydney (Druitt Street entrance)
02 8023 7608 | reignatqvb.com.au

Sydney's premium Champagne Parlour and Bar has arrived at the iconic QVB. Reign serves up over 150 champagnes and sparkling wines alongside an array of seasonally-driven share-plates. From lunch to weekend brunch, Reign is the ultimate destination for queens and kings to play.

Access to the level is via QVB lifts. The venue is wheelchair accessible.

RITZ BALCONY BAR



HAPPY HOUR 4-6PM MONDAY-FRIDAY: \$12 COCKTAILS AND \$7 BEER, HOUSE WINE AND SELECT SPIRITS

Level 1, Ritz Cinemas,
45 St Pauls Street, Randwick
(02) 8324 2500 | ritzcinemas.com.au

The Balcony Bar, upstairs at the Ritz, serves a wide range of cool drinks and hot snacks that go together like Bogart and Bacall. The outdoor balcony is the perfect spot to unwind with a cocktail and a bowl of hot chips or olives while chatting all things movies.

Wheelchair access via lift. Accessible bathrooms and all-gender bathrooms available.



DONATE TO YOUR SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Over 130,000 people see films at SFF every year, and have been for over 70 years, however ticket sales add up to less than 30% of the true cost of producing the Festival.

SFF is a not-for profit Festival that relies on the generosity of people like you to continue telling Australia's stories to the world and to bring the world to Sydney.

SUPPORT YOUR WAY

DONATE ONLINE
www.sff.org.au/support-us

BECOME A PATRON
www.sff.org.au/patron

MAKE A BEQUEST
www.sff.org.au/bequest



Look for this icon across the program guide to see what your support helps make possible.

NICOLE KIDMAN, AC WOMEN'S GIVING COLLECTIVE

Nicole Kidman, the iconic Hollywood star, steps into a new role as Ambassador for the Sydney Film Festival's Women's Giving Collective. Kidman has joined forces with the Festival to empower women and non-binary filmmakers, addressing gender inequity in the industry.

The Women's Giving Collective strives for gender parity, aligning with the principles of the 5050x2020 initiative, with SFF's goal to champion Festival films directed or co-directed by women. With her brilliance, infectious energy and unwavering dedication, Nicole Kidman is the perfect fit to champion the cause. Raised in Sydney, she continues to inspire generations of filmmakers and audiences around the world.

Together with Kidman, SFF aims to reshape the industry, fostering inclusivity and diversity. Kidman's appointment signifies a significant step forward, drawing attention to the vital importance of women in cinema.

"As the Ambassador for Women's Giving Collective, we strive towards a cinematic landscape where diversity thrives, and creativity knows no bounds."

Join Nicole Kidman and the SFF Women's Giving Collective in rewriting the future of cinema. Find out more about SFF Patron initiatives at: sff.org.au/patron

That moment

when you unlock the world
with a single suite key.

Open the door to the incomparable value of all-inclusive, ultra-luxury cruising on Seabourn. You'll feel right at home in our intimate, yacht-like atmosphere, pampered by intuitive, personalised service. Ensclosed in your spacious ocean-front suite, you can explore all seven continents, savour gourmet dining that rivals the finest restaurants in the world and enjoy complimentary premium wines and spirits. All with the added benefit that you only have to unpack once.

This is your moment.



SEABOURN®

CONTACT YOUR TRAVEL ADVISOR
OR VISIT SEABOURN.COM

All-inclusive | Ultra-Luxury Cruises & Expeditions | Intuitive Personalized Service

YOUR FESTIVAL
 YOUR FILMS
 YOUR STORIES
 YOUR CITY
 YOUR THRILLS
 YOUR WAY
YOUR FLEXIPASS
 YOUR LAUGHS
 YOUR DRAMA
 YOUR CHANCE
 YOUR NIGHT OUT
 YOUR MOMENT
 YOUR PICKS

SEE MORE AND
SAVE MORE WITH
A SFF FLEXIPASS.

Save up to \$8.50 per ticket, share your pass with friends, and join a special community of film fans who get year-round perks, including invites to free preview screenings of hot new films.

Got yours already? Sign up to SFF eNews to receive your invites and offers!



challenger 



Leader in
retirement
income

The retirement of a lifetime starts today

We offer a range of products aimed at helping our customers during retirement. Our **market-leading annuities** provide a guaranteed regular income for life, or for a chosen investment term, helping to give peace of mind in retirement.

To find out more, visit challenger.com.au

Major Partner of the
Sydney Film Festival

CREDITS & THANKS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair Darren Dale, Deputy Chair Zareh Naibandian
Chair of Finance Committee Sally Herman OAM,
Nick Abrahams, Debbie Lee, Amanda Maple-Brown,
Penny Smallacombe

FESTIVAL PATRONS

Gillian Armstrong AM, Cate Blanchett AC, Bryan Brown AM,
Jane Campion DNZM, Jan Chapman AO, Nicole Kidman AC,
Baz Luhrmann, Dr George Miller AO, Sam Neill DCNZM OBE,
Phillip Noyce AO, Rachel Ward AM, Hugo Weaving AO

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chair Peter Ivany AO, Phillip Adams AO, Sarah Cooke,
Mark Gooder, Peter Hall, Cathy Harris AO PSM, Phillip Noyce AO,
Richard Roxburgh

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Neil Angwin, Rob Antulov, Lynden Barber, Phillipa Brennan,
Anthony Buckley AM, John Burke, Beverly Burke, Paul Byrnes,
Leo Christie OAM, Anton Crouch, David Donaldson,
Jacqui Feeney, Virginia Gordon AM, Warren Krass, Gayle
Lake, Joan McDonald OAM, Mark Nichols, Cathy Robinson,
John Rochester, Katherine Sainty, Tony Sernack,
Clare Stewart, David Stratton AM, Anne Strong, Kevin Troy,
Ross Tzannes AM

DIRECTOR'S LAB AMBASSADORS

Nash Edgerton, Mirrah Foulkes, Damon Herriman,
Mia Wasikowska

TEAM

EXECUTIVE

Festival Director: Nashen Moodley
Chief Executive Officer: Frances Wallace

CORPORATE

Head of Finance and Administration: Tracey Hurt
Assistant Accountant: Julie Gifford
Festival Administrator: Beatrix Brady

PROGRAMS

Head of Programs & Documentary Programmer:
Jenny Neighbour
Program Coordinator & Programmer: Justin Martyniuk
Freak Me Out Programmer: Richard Kuipers
Screenability Curator: Rebecca McCormack
First Nations Program Advisor: Aaliyah Bradbury
Sembène Retrospective Curator: Keith Shiri
FLUX: Art+Film Curators: Ruby Arrowsmith-Todd,
Dr. Harriet Johnson
Shorts Programmer: Paul Matereke
Family Programmer: Katharine Rogers
Program Consultants: Paul Struthers, Shelly Kraicer
Program Advisors: Felix Hubble, Melba Proestos
Assistant Program Advisors: Lies Bruines, Claire Cao,
Kyle Goldfinch
Program guide contributors: Ian Barr, Claire Cao,
Felix Hubble, Richard Kuipers, Jim Poe, Melba Proestos,
Harry Windsor, and the Festival Programming team

*The Shorts Programmer position has been supported by
an Animal Logic Entertainment Fellowship with a view to
developing the career of an emerging programmer.*

Technical Consultants: Martin van Broekhoven,
Mirjam Bromundt
Freight Handler: Neil Angwin, Trek Couriers
Film Captions & Audio Description Provider: 3Play Media
Content Management: Silver Trak Digital

MARKETING

Head of Marketing: Joshua Forward
Digital Marketing Manager: Dominic Ellis
Digital Marketing Coordinator: Liam Seymour
Campaign Manager: Jacob Knero
Publications Manager: Harry Windsor
Marketing & Publications Coordinator: Nicole Cadelina
Materials & Content Manager: Martin Carroll
Materials & Content Coordinator: Abhishek Parasher
In-house Graphic Designer: Hannah Dockrill

TICKETING

CRM & Ticketing Manager: Windsor
Ticketing Systems Administrator: Christopher Wale
Ticketing Supervisor: Sophie Constable
VIP & Guest Ticketing Coordinator: Nathan Mills
Box Office Casuals: Samantha Atherley, Sarah Carroll,
Angus Crampton, Simon Crocker, Lillian Dunphy, Steph Elsey,
Will Fisher, Caitlin Goldfinch, Kyle Goldfinch, Naz Gulmez,
Emma Kew, Hanako Manning, Jasper Marlow, Amelia McPhie,
Shana Meegan, Annabelle Miller, Jessica Nuguid,
Clare O'Doherty, Flo Petrie, Natalie Quinn, Jackie Terrett,
Max Troughton, Ella Walsh, Karen Ways

PHILANTHROPY AND PARTNERSHIPS

Head of Philanthropy: Eden Tollis
Philanthropy Manager: Erin Westhoff
Partnerships Manager: Judy Gilfeather-Zhu,
Sasha Hoffmann
Partnerships and Events Coordinator: Madeleine Doyle

INDUSTRY

Industry and Guest Manager: Lisa Kitching
Industry Events Coordinator: Amy Hoogenboom
Industry Coordinator: Keira Sinclair
Jury Coordinator: Arun Clarke
Guest Coordinator: Ben Amy, Laura Carlson, Tom Molyneux
Transport Supervisor: Jamie Corson

OPERATIONS & EVENTS

Head of Operations & Events: Brock Taffe
Operations & Events Manager: Saige Browne
Volunteer Coordinator: Brady Tasker
Assistant Production Manager: Onur Karaozbek
Major Events Coordinator: Lauren Bacon-Fleming

PUBLIC RELATIONS

ORIGINAL SPIN

Company Director: Amber Forrest-Bisley
Communications Director: Matt Fraser
Communications Advisor: Sanika Karnik
Communications Advisor: Lachlan Camilleri

FILM ADVISORY PANEL

Simon Anlezark, Martha Ansara, Jodi Brooks, Pat Fiske,
Alissar Gazal, Travis Green, Elena Guest, Enno Hermann,
Karina Libbey, Jane Mills, Sevana Ohandjanian, Alyssa Ovriss,
Julia Overton, Paul Robson, Katharine Rogers, Liz Stevens,
Toni Stowers, Julian Wood, Tom Zubrycki

OPERATIONS & EVENTS

The Event Department: Natalie Butler, Dylan Zarb,
Keely de Manielle
Technical Direction Company (TDC): Chris Fitzgerald,
Hannah Anderson-Reid
Constant Security & Logistics: David Venegas,
Andrew Constantinou
Edge Digital: Scott Hayton, Glenn Butler
Thomson Street: Alistair Thomson
Valiant Furniture: Jocelyn Petrie
Laissez-Faire: David Quinn, Olivia Flaksbard

dplr & Orbit

Co-Directors: Liz Astey, Andy Lysle
General Manager: Mack Ebelst
Producers: Billy Cheeseman, Courtney Duka

QBT: Ella Hinschen, Oliver Wangsa, Nick Ramsay,
Patrick Ramsay, William Langbridge
Zoom Phone & Contact Centre: Mark Atalla, Kyle Weltman,
Brett Stevenson, Andy Lowas, Liz Salazar, Ray Milan,
Mario Pena
Cloud Applications / IT Online: Lachlan Le Compute
TimeCounts (Volunteers): Amanda Rose

TICKETING & APP

FERVE TICKETING

Rob Raulings, Simon Mawdesley, Hahn Nguyen, Liam Russell,
Clayton Hamilton, Anja Arvo, Rebecca Patrick, Maynard Page,
Raymond Andrews, Trevor Schoenmaekers

SFF WEBSITE

ED.

Creative Director: Elliot Schultz
Senior Designer: Jeremy Ward
Digital Director: Daniel Lever
Project Manager: Sarina Mafriaci

CAMPAIGN CREATIVE

FROST*COLLECTIVE

Executive Creative Director: Vince Frost
Group Creative Director: Anthony Donovan
Strategy: Natalie Smith
Creative Director: Richard Davies
Designers: David Ho, Misra Imran Khan, Dani de Rome
Client Management: Andrew Ingenito, Hien Nguyen

DIGITAL AGENCY

BOLSTER

Group CEO: James Clarke
Senior Client Lead: Rory Stanway
Senior Campaign Manager: Jasper Childs
Campaign Assistant: Catherine Xi

SFF 2024 SIZZLE REEL & TVC

Produced by: The Post Lounge

TRAVEL AGENT

Travel Beyond: Carolyn Dean, Shannon Meredith

ART GALLERY OF NSW

Curator, Film: Ruby Arrowsmith-Todd
Visitor Services Manager: Catherine Pye

EVT LIMITED

Chief Executive Officer: Jane Hastings

STATE THEATRE

General Manager: Mark Harris
Theatre Manager: Jillian Belfield
Client Services & Finance Manager: Maddison Honeyman
Front of House & Marketing Manager: Beaver Garland
Food and Beverage Manager: Stuart Greene
Maintenance Manager: Mody Assfour
Production Manager: Catherine DeVries
Production Coordinator: Narelle Smith

EVENT CINEMAS GEORGE STREET & IMAX SYDNEY

General Manager, Film and Content: Claire Gandy
Head of Programming Operations: Sara-Maree Pron
Senior Film & Content Programmer: Carlos Cardenas
General Manager, IMAX Sydney: Prakash Prabhakaran
General Manager, Event Cinemas George St: Katja Sinani
Digital Technical Services Manager: Paul Greer
Conference & Event Sales Manager: Michael Sabater

HAYDEN ORPHEUM PICTURE PALACE CREMORNE

General Manager & Head of Programming: Alex Temesvari
Events Manager: Rachel Baker
Operations Manager: Sam Hanson
Administrative Manager: Jennifer Williams
Technical & Projection Supervisor: Oliver Halicki
Front of House Manager: Salome Lines-Morison
Marketing & Events Coordinator: Jordan Delany

DENDY CINEMAS

CEO: Sharon Strickland
Chief Operating Officer (COO): Leanne Brett
National Programming Manager: Andrew Perkin
Head of Marketing: Eloi Mota
Head of National Operations: Kathryn Craig
Senior Marketing Manager: Robyn Bambury
National Operations Manager: Kiliane Beunard
National Technical Manager: Doug Munro
Content Operations: Nikki Jones
General Manager Newtown: Matt Sherbon
Events Manager Newtown: Taluh Baker

RITZ CINEMAS

Cinema Owners: Tamir Family
Programming Manager: Benji Tamir
Marketing Manager: Jaymes Durante
General Manager: Alex Fletcher
Groups & Events Manager: Sinead Campion

PALACE CINEMAS

CEO: Benjamin Zeccola
Central General Manager: Steven Nicholls
Norton Street General Manager: Elliott Collins
Central Assistant Manager: Nicholas Brown
Norton Street Assistant Managers: Declan Kelly and
Mia-Clare Cox
Director of Programming: Paul Timos
Head of Marketing: Alex Moir
Events Manager: Magenta McHalick

STATE LIBRARY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

State Librarian: Dr Caroline Butler-Bowdon
Head of Public Programs: Lydia Tasker
Visitor Services Manager: Marcelo Flaksbard
Venues and Events Officer: Brooke Carrington
Events Officer: William Pulley

AND THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES AND FILM PROVIDERS:

Amazon MGM Studios; Anna Films; Arcadia; ArtHood
Entertainment; Association of Filmmakers of Bosnia and
Herzegovina; Australian Film, Television and Radio School;
Autlook Film Sales; Bandwagon; Best Friend Forever; Bitters
End, Inc.; Blink TV and Beyond Entertainment; Bonsai Films;
Bus Stop Films; Cargo Film Releasing; CAT&Docs; Chabial;
Charades; Chinese Shadows; Ciné-Sud Promotion; Cinephil;
CJ ENM; Danish Film Institute; Documentary Australia;
Dogwoof; Doriane Films; DR Sales; European Film Promotion;
Fabian & Fred; The Festival Agency; FestivalScope; Film
Camp; Film Constellation; FilmFreeway; Films Boutique; Finch
No Worries; The Finnish Film Foundation; Freedom From Fear
Films; German Films; Heretic; Icelandic Film Centre; Icon Film
Distribution; Indiestory Inc.; Indox; Janus Films; KinoLorber;
Kismet Movies; Known Associates Entertainment; Label
Distribution; Lenny Pictures; LikeRightNow Films; Limelight
Distribution; Luxbox; M-Appeal World Sales; Madman
Entertainment; Magic Hour Films; Magnify; Manifest; Maslow
Entertainment; The Match Factory; Matthew Marks Gallery;
Memento Films; Metamorphosis Film Junction; MetFilm Sales;
Mirabai Films; Misfits Entertainment; MK2 Films; National
Council of Churches; National Film and Sound Archive;
National Film Centre of Latvia; Neon; Netflix; Norwegian Film
Institute; Palace Films; Pallas Film GmbH; Park Circus; The
Party Sales; Pascale Ramonda ; Patra Spanou Film; Picture
House; Pivot Pictures; Playtime; Presbyterian Historical
Society; Protagonist Pictures; Pyramide International;
The Reciprocity Project; Rialto Distribution; Roadshow
Entertainment; Run Charlie Films; Runt Films; Salaud
Morisset; SCCA/pro.ba; Shark Island Institute; Sharmill Films;
Sony Pictures Releasing; STAN; STUDIOCANAL; Swedish Film
Institute; Swiss Films; Taskovski Films; Transmission Films;
TVCO; Umbrella Entertainment; Unifrance; Universal Content
Group; Universal Pictures International; UTS Animal Logic
Academy; Vendetta Films; Vendetta Films; Videohead; Visit
Films; Wallonie Bruxelles Images; Walt Disney Company; The
Yellow Affair; Yellow Veil Pictures; Zipporah Films;
and all the filmmakers who have supported SFF this year

RESTAURANT & BAR PARTNERS

Abode Bistro. Bar, Bar 83, Beau, Brasserie 1930, The Charles
Grand Brasserie & Bar, ESQ Bar + Dining, Fix Wine Bar +
Restaurant, Fink, glass brasserie, Lotus The Galleries, MAIZ,
Monopole, Reign, Ritz Balcony Bar

**WE WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE AND THANK ALL
OF OUR VOLUNTEERS, THE FILMMAKERS AND FESTIVAL
GUESTS, DIRECTOR'S PATRONS, SUPPORTING CAST
DONORS, FESTIVAL PARTNERS AND ALL OF THEIR
TEAMS FOR THEIR HARD WORK AND GENEROSITY IN
HELPING US PRESENT THE 2024 FESTIVAL.**

LOCATIONS

PLAN YOUR TRIP

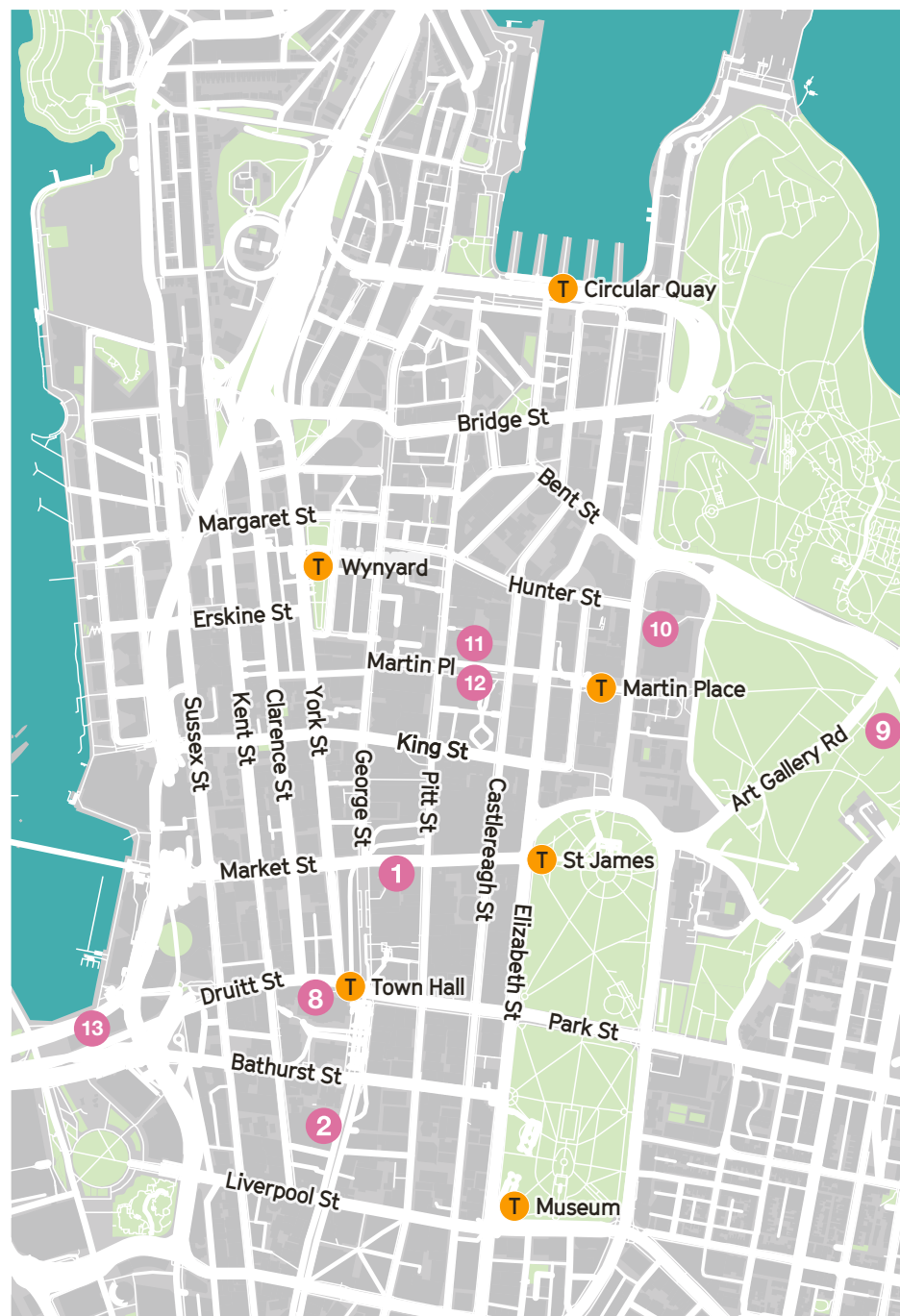
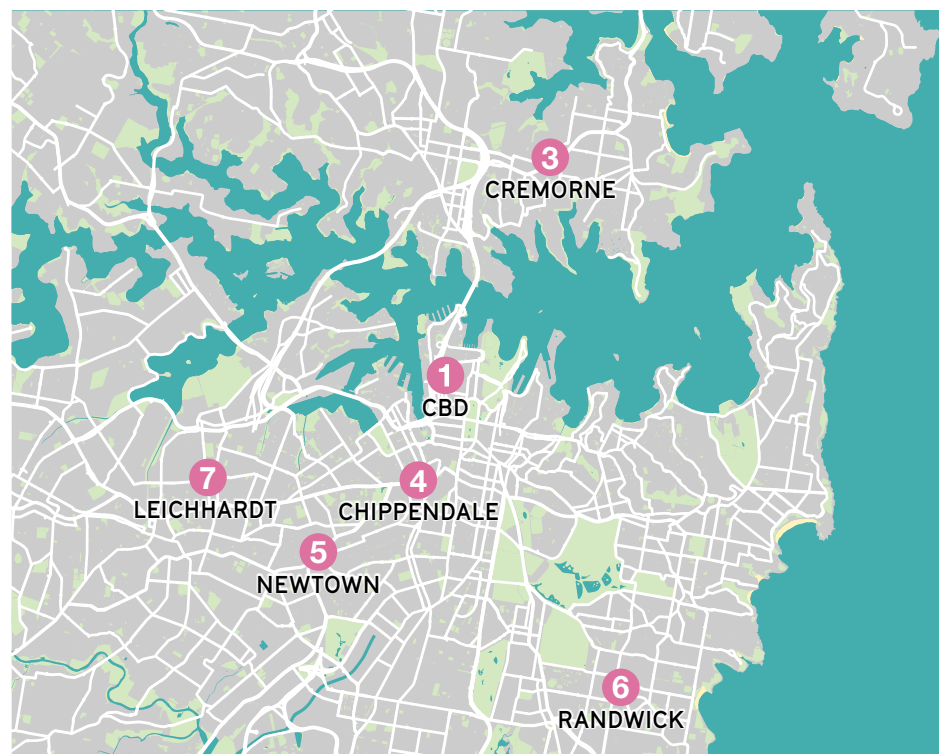
Take advantage of the public transport services located near all Festival venues.

Visit transportnsw.info or phone 131 500 for information. Or use the SFF App for directions.

For bike parking refer to cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/cycling

For mobility parking refer to cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/lists-maps-inventories/mobility-parking

See you at the cinema!



VENUES & BOX OFFICE HOURS

SFF box offices at all venues open one hour before the first screening and close 15 minutes after the last screening begins, unless otherwise stated. Cashless payments only.

- 1 STATE THEATRE**
49 Market St, Sydney
Box office opens one hour prior to Opening Night on 5 June, and daily 9am-9pm during the Festival
- 2 EVENT CINEMAS GEORGE STREET**
505-525 George St, Sydney
- 3 HAYDEN ORPHEUM PICTURE PALACE CREMORNE**
380 Military Rd, Cremorne
- 4 PALACE CENTRAL CINEMAS**
Level 3, Central Park Mall, 28 Broadway, Chippendale
- 5 DENDY CINEMAS NEWTOWN**
261-263 King St, Newtown
- 6 THE RITZ CINEMAS**
45 St Pauls St, Randwick
- 7 PALACE NORTON STREET**
99 Norton St, Leichhardt
- 8 THE HUB @ TOWN HALL**
483 George St, Sydney. Entry via DrUITT St. No box office onsite.
- 9 ART GALLERY OF NSW, DOMAIN THEATRE**
Lower Level 3, AGNSW South Building, Art Gallery Rd, The Domain, Sydney
- 10 STATE LIBRARY OF NSW**
Library Auditorium, Lower Ground Floor, Macquarie St Building, Sydney
- 11 CITY RECITAL HALL**
2 Angel Place, Sydney
- 12 SFFTV - MARTIN PLACE**
Between Pitt St and Castlereagh St, Sydney
- 13 IMAX SYDNEY**
1/35 Wheat Rd, Darling Harbour

SFF71 APP

YOUR ONE-STOP POCKET GUIDE TO THE FESTIVAL

- Browse the full program and create a wish list
- Get exclusive discounts
- Go paperless! Show your tickets via the app
- Vote in the GIO Audience Awards (see [page 5](#))



TICKET PRICING

SINGLE TICKETS (excludes special events)

ADULT _____	\$24.50
CONCESSION/SENIORS* _____	\$19.50
YOUTH (17 and under) _____	\$18.00
GROUP OF 10+ _____	\$18.50

FLEXIPASSES SAVE YOU UP TO \$255!

- Purchase in bundles of 10, 20 or 30 tickets.
- Redeem online against SFF sessions (some exclusions apply, see sff.org.au/flexipass).
- Buy a Flexipass for SFF 2024 before 18 May and go in the running to **win a cinematic trip to Hawaii** (terms and conditions apply).
- Share with friends – redeem up to four tickets per session.

FLEXIPASS 10 (SAVE \$60) _____	\$185
FLEXIPASS 20 (SAVE \$150) _____	\$340
FLEXIPASS 30 (SAVE \$255) _____	\$480
YOUTH PASS 6 (15–24 YEARS OLD) (SAVE \$75) _____	\$84

OPENING & CLOSING NIGHT

OPENING NIGHT (FILM & PARTY) _____	\$160
OPENING NIGHT (FILM ONLY) _____	\$55/\$50 CONC*
CLOSING NIGHT (FILM ONLY) _____	\$40/\$35 CONC*

* Concessions available to full-time students, pensioners, healthcare card holders, unemployed people, and seniors. Concession cards must be shown upon admission.

For full ticket information see the SFF website.

ACCESS AND INCLUSION

Sydney Film Festival endeavours to make its events a welcoming and inclusive experience for all. For expanded details on accessibility and inclusion practices and additional venue information, including bathroom access and parking, visit venue specific pages via sff.org.au/info/access. Sessions are also browsable by access requirements via our website.

SFF gratefully acknowledges Director's Patron Vivienne Selwyn's generous support to make the Festival a more inclusive workplace and event.



COMPANION CARDS



SFF proudly accepts Companion Cards for all sessions. For guests who require the assistance of a companion or carer, a second ticket is issued at no cost to the Companion Card holder. To book, contact **1300 733 733** or email tickets@sff.org.au. To access your Companion Card tickets online, use promo code **COMPANION24**.

AUSLAN INTERPRETED Q&AS AND INTRODUCTIONS



Auslan interpreting is for audiences who use Australian Sign Language (Auslan). The program guide will include details of events that include Auslan.

OPEN CAPTIONS



Open Captions display all dialogue and describe sounds as text on the screen. The program guide will include details of screenings with Open Captions available.

CLOSED CAPTIONS



Closed Captions display all dialogue and describe sounds as text on a personal device with a high-contrast display and privacy screen. The program guide will include details of screenings with Closed Captions available.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS



Sydney Film Festival's venues are all wheelchair accessible. Please get in touch with our box office at **1300 733 733** or tickets@sff.org.au to book wheelchair accessible seating.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING



All venues have an induction hearing loop system or hearing aid transmitters. See the auditorium-specific information on our website for details.

ASSISTANCE ANIMALS



Assistance animals are welcome at all Festival events and venues. Bookings are essential as we must advise the venue in advance: call **1300 733 733** or email tickets@sff.org.au.

ASSISTANCE AT THE VENUE



If you require assistance or have questions about accessibility, our friendly accessibility volunteers will be happy to help. They'll be at each cinema wearing purple vests. Or head to the SFF Box Office on arrival and we will organise for a volunteer to assist you.

BOOK TICKETS

SFF.ORG.AU
SFF 2024 APP
1300 733 733

PRE-FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE HOURS
UNTIL 4 JUNE:
CALL 9AM-6PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY
10AM-3PM ON SATURDAYS

DURING THE FESTIVAL
FROM 5-16 JUNE:
CALL 9AM-6.30PM DAILY
SEE VENUES FOR IN-PERSON BOX OFFICE HOURS

AGE RESTRICTIONS

No one under 18 is admitted to 18+ films. Children under 15, including babies, will only be admitted to 15+ films with a parent or guardian. Most films in the Family section are classified for all ages, but please check age recommendations for each film.

CONTENT WARNING

Films rated 18+ may contain elements such as sex scenes, drug use, suicide, aggressive themes, abuse and violent acts including sexual assault that are strong in impact. If you need help, 24/7 assistance is available from:

LIFELINE **13 11 14**
[Lifeline.org.au](https://lifeline.org.au)

BEYOND BLUE **1300 224 636**
[Beyondblue.org.au](https://beyondblue.org.au)

SUICIDE CALL BACK SERVICE **1300 659 467**
[Suicidecallbackservice.org.au](https://suicidecallbackservice.org.au)

MENSLINE AUSTRALIA **1300 789 978**
[Mensline.org.au](https://mensline.org.au)

SCREENABILITY



Screenability is designed to boost the participation of under-represented groups in the screen industry. Sydney Film Festival is proud to present films with **Auslan-interpreted** filmmaker introductions and Q&As, **Open Captioning** and **Audio Description**. See page 38 for full details.

Check our website for updates on films screening with captioning and/or audio description.

RESTAURANT PARTNERS

Most of the venues for the Restaurant Partner deals are fully accessible. For information on each venue consult **page 48**.

POLICIES

For full terms and conditions, and all our ticket purchase policies, visit sff.org.au/terms-and-conditions/

INDEX BY COUNTRY

ALGERIA	
Camp de Thiaroye	41
ARGENTINA	
Puan	8
AUSTRALIA	
200% Wolf	33
Alone	14
Aquarius	12
Besharam!	14
The Blind Sea	12
Bong Xi Fa Cai	14
The Cars That Ate Paris	43
Charmian Clift - Life Burns High	27
The Convert	10, 16
Dale Frank - Nobody's Sweetie	12
Dancer	44
Darwin Story	14
Die Bully Die	14
The Disconnected	14
Earwax	37
Every Little Thing	12
Exposure	25
Flathead	21
The Gay	14
Grove of Giants	44
He Ain't Heavy	21
A Horse Named Winx	28
In Vitro	22
It Will Find You	37
Kid Snow	17
The Meaningless Daydreams of Augie & Celeste	14
Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line	4, 8
The Moogai	11, 36
Mozart's Sister	13
My Freaky Family	33
Of the Last Reel in Front Of You	44
The Pool	18
Porcelain War	18
Rabbit-Proof Fence (4K Restoration)	43
Rehabilitating	38
Resonance	32
Revealed: Otto By Otto	13
Rewards for the Tribe	30
Say	14
Skategoat	13
The Sloth Lane	33
Ten Canoes	43
This Will Never Last	14
Threshold	38
Unstoppable	38
Welcome To Babel	13
Welcome to Yiddishland	13
Withered Blossoms	44
You Should Have Been Here Yesterday	13
AUSTRIA	
Veni Vidi Vici	25
BANGLADESH	
Something Like An Autobiography	24
BELGIUM	
Among The Wolves	26
The Flats	28
Green Border	17
The Lost Children	35
The Rye Horn	24
Soundtrack to a Coup d'Etat	39
BENIN	
Dahomey	16
BHUTAN	
Agent of Happiness	26
The Monk and the Gun	17
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	
Excursion	34
BRAZIL	
Motel Destino	23
Puan	8
Toll	25
BURKINA FASO	
Moolaadé	41
CAMEROON	
Moolaadé	41
CANADA	
The Bones	27
The Dead Don't Hurt	16
Hunting Days	36
My Old Ass	17
The Soldier's Lagoon	39
Sugarcane	31
Wake Up	37
CHILE	
Memory	22
CHINA	
Brief History of a Family	20
Rapture	24
Welcome To Babel	13
COLOMBIA	
The Soldier's Lagoon	39

CROATIA	
Do Not Expect Too Much From the End of the World	20
Excursion	34
CZECH REPUBLIC	
Green Border	17
DENMARK	
Afterwar	34
Balomania	26
Black Snow	27
Brief History of a Family	20
Crossing	20
The Dead Don't Hurt	16
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	
Pepe	23
FINLAND	
Afterwar	34
Je'vida	10, 35
FRANCE	
About Dry Grasses	19
Achilles	19
Among The Wolves	26
Architecton	26
Borom Sarret	41
Brief History of a Family	20
City of Wind	20
Crossing	20
Dahomey	16
Do Not Expect Too Much from the End of the World	20
Eephus	20
Emitai	20
Essential Truths of the Lake	21
Excursion	34
The Flats	28
Grand Tour	7
Green Border	17
Guelwaar	41
Hesitation Wound	22
In the Rearview	28
Marcello Mio	7
Menus-Plaisirs - Les Troisgros	29
The Monk and the Gun	17
Moolaadé	41
Motel Destino	23
My New Friends	23
Niaye	41
Pepe	23
Puan	8
September Says	8
Shambhala	24
She Loved Blossoms More	37
Soundtrack to a Coup D'Etat	39
Sujo	8
Suspended Time	25
Transylvanie	37
Wake Up	37
GEORGIA	
Crossing	20
GERMANY	
About Dry Grasses	19
Achilles	19
Architecton	26
The Bones	27
City of Wind	20
Cuckoo	36
Dying	6
Guelwaar	41
More Than Strangers	23
Motel Destino	23
My Stolen Planet	29
The Outrun	18
Pepe	23
Puan	8
September Says	8
The Waiting	44
GREECE	
The Battle for Laikipia	27
More Than Strangers	23
September Says	8
She Loved Blossoms More	37
HONG KONG	
All Shall Be Well	19
Shambhala	24
HUNGARY	
Agent of Happiness	26
Explanation for Everything	21
ICELAND	
The Home Game	28
Touch	18
INDIA	
All We Imagine as Light	6
The Feast	44
Flickering Lights	28
Kill	36
Nocturnes	30
Paradise	23
Rapture	24

IRAN	
Achilles	19
My Stolen Planet	29
IRAQ	
Immortals	35
IRELAND	
The Flats	28
Kinds of Kindness	7
Kneecap	7
My Freaky Family	33
September Says	8
ITALY	
Essential Truths of the Lake	21
Grand Tour	7
Marcello Mio	7
Puan	8
There's Still Tomorrow	9
JAPAN	
Black Box Diaries	27
The Cats of Gokogu Shrine	27
Cottontail	20
My Sunshine	23
One Second Ahead, One Second Behind	23
KENYA	
The Battle for Laikipia	27
KOSOVO	
Afterwar	34
LATVIA	
A Postcard from Rome	35
LUXEMBOURG	
All We Imagine as Light	6
Do Not Expect Too Much from the End of the World	20
MEXICO	
The Dead Don't Hurt	16
La Cocina	22
Memory	22
Sujo	8
MONGOLIA	
City of Wind	20
Dancer	44
MOROCCO	
Moolaadé	41
NAMIBIA	
Pepe	23
NEPAL	
Shambhala	24
NETHERLANDS	
All We Imagine as Light	6
City of Wind	20
Occupied City	30
Rapture	24
Soundtrack to a Coup D'Etat	39
NEW ZEALAND	
The Convert	10, 16
First Horse	11
Head South	32
Ka Whawhai Tonu	10
Lea Tupu'Anga/Mother Tongue	11
The Moon is Upside Down	23
The Mountain	11
The Paragon	36
We Were Dangerous	11
NORWAY	
Armand	19
Ellogierdu - The Tundra Within Me	10
Excursion	34
Life is Beautiful	29
A New Kind of Wilderness	29
No Other Land	30
The Remarkable Life of Ibelin	30
Sex	24
Shambhala	24
PALESTINE	
Life is Beautiful	29
No Other Land	30
PHILIPPINES	
Essential Truths of the Lake	21
Viêt And Nam	9
POLAND	
Green Border	17
In the Rearview	28
Woman Of...	25
PORTUGAL	
City of Wind	20
Essential Truths of the Lake	21
Grand Tour	7
The Rye Horn	24
Toll	25
QATAR	
Brief History of a Family	20

City of Wind	20
Excursion	34
Life is Beautiful	29
Rapture	24
Shambhala	24
ROMANIA	
Do Not Expect Too Much from the End of the World	20
Hesitation Wound	22
SENEGAL	
Black Girl	40
Borom Sarret	41
Camp de Thiaroye	41
Ceddo	41
Dahomey	16
Emitai	40
Guelwaar	41
Mandabi	40
Moolaadé	41
Niaye	41
Tauw	41
Xala	40
SERBIA	
Excursion	34
SINGAPORE	
Essential Truths of the Lake	21
SLOVAKIA	
Explanation for Everything	21
SOUTH AFRICA	
Death of a Whistleblower	20
SOUTH KOREA	
Alienoid / Alienoid: Return to the Future	19
House of the Seasons	22
It's Okay!	33
SPAIN	
Balomania	26
Hesitation Wound	22
The Rye Horn	24
SRI LANKA	
Paradise	23
SWEDEN	
Afterwar	34
Crossing	20
Unicorns	25
Woman Of...	25
SWITZERLAND	
Essential Truths of the Lake	21
Immortals	35
Rapture	24
TAIWAN	
The Monk and the Gun	17
Shambhala	24
Tayal Forest Club	11
TUNISIA	
Camp de Thiaroye	41
Moolaadé	41
TÜRKIYE	
About Dry Grasses	19
Crossing	20
Hesitation Wound	22
Shambhala	24
UK	
Black Box Diaries	27
The Contestant	27
Copa '71	27
Cottontail	20
Darwin Story	14
Essential Truths of the Lake	21
Federer: Last Twelve Days	28
The Flats	28
Hear My Eyes: Hellraiser	37
Kinds of Kindness	7
Kneecap	7
Lee	17
Lullaby	37
Made in England: The Films of Powell and Pressburger	29
Meat Puppet	37
Occupied City	30
The Outrun	18
Peeping Tom	43
September Says	8
The Stimming Pool	38
Super/Man: The Christopher Reeve Story	31
Touch	18
Unicorns	25
Untitled Blur Documentary	32
Wilding	31
UKRAINE	
In the Rearview	28
Porcelain War	18
USA	
Architecton	26
Bad Timing	42
The Ballad of Suzanne Cesaire	39

The Battle for Laikipia	27
The Bikeriders	16
Black Box Diaries	27
Black Snow	27
The Cats of Gokogu Shrine	27
Conspiracy	39
Cuckoo	36
Daddio	20
Despicable Me 4	16, 33
A Different Man	17
Dogfight	42
Dream Creep	37
Eephus	20
Ezra	21
Ghostlight	21
Good Bad Things	38
Guelwaar	41
Hear My Eyes: Hellraiser	37
Household Saints	42
I Saw the TV Glow	22
Kinds of Kindness	7
La Cocina	22
Made in England: The Films of Powell and Pressburger	29
Memory	22
Menus-Plaisirs - Les Troisgros	29
Mississippi Masala	43
The Monk and the Gun	17
My Old Ass	17
Nocturnes	30
Occupied City	30
Porcelain War	18
Problemista	24
Renata	42
The Ride Ahead	38
Sasquatch Sunset	24
Shambhala	24
Skywalkers: A Love Story	31
Stress Positions	24
Sugarcane	31
Sujo	8
Super/Man: The Christopher Reeve Story	31
Tauw	41
Thelma	25
True Love	42
Unicorns	25
VIETNAM	
Việt And Nam	9

INDEX BY TITLE

200% Wolf	33
A	
About Dry Grasses	19
Achilles	19
Afterwar	34
Agent of Happiness	26
Alienoid / Alienoid: Return to the Future	19
All Shall Be Well	19
All We Imagine as Light	6
Alone	14
Among The Wolves	26
Aquarius	12
Architecton	26
Armand	19
B	
Bad Timing	42
The Ballad of Suzanne Cesaire	39
Balomania	26
The Battle for Laikipia	27
Besharam!	14
The Bikeriders	16
Black Box Diaries	27
Black Girl	40
Black Snow	27
The Blind Sea	12
The Bones	27
Bong Xi Fa Cai	14
Borom Sarret	41
Brief History of a Family	20
C	
Camp de Thiaroye	41
The Cars That Ate Paris	43
The Cats of Gokogu Shrine	27
Ceddo	41
Charmian Clift - Life Burns High	27
City of Wind	20
Conspiracy	39
The Contestant	27
The Convert	10, 16
Copa '71	27
Cottontail	20
Crossing	20
Cuckoo	36

D	
Daddio	20
Dahomey	16
Dale Frank - Nobody's Sweetie	12
Dancer	44
Darwin Story	14
The Dead Don't Hurt	16
Death of a Whistleblower	20
Despicable Me 4	16, 33
Die Bully Die	14
A Different Man	17
The Disconnected	14
Do Not Expect Too Much from the End of the World	20
Dogfight	42
Dream Creep	37
Dying	6
E	
Earwax	37
Eephus	20
Ellogierdu - The Tundra Within Me	10
Emitai	40
Essential Truths of the Lake	21
Every Little Thing	12
Excursion	34
Explanation for Everything	21
Exposure	25
Ezra	21
F	
The Feast	44
Federer: Last Twelve Days	28
First Horse	11
Flathead	21
The Flats	28
Flickering Lights	28
G	
The Gay	14
Ghostlight	21
Good Bad Things	38
Grand Tour	7
Green Border	17
Grove of Giants	44
Guelwaar	41
H	
He Ain't Heavy	21
Head South	32
Hear My Eyes: Hellraiser	37
Hesitation Wound	22
The Home Game	28
A Horse Named Winx	28
House of the Seasons	22
Household Saints	42
Hunting Daze	36
I	
I Saw the TV Glow	22
Immortals	35
In the Rearview	28
In Vitro	22
It Will Find You	37
It's Okay!	33
J	
Je'vida	10, 35
K	
Ka Whawhai Tonu	10
Kid Snow	17
Kill	36
Kinds of Kindness	7
Kneecap	7
L	
La Cocina	22
Lea Tupu'Anga/Mother Tongue	11
Lee	17
Life is Beautiful	29
The Lost Children	35
Lullaby	37
M	
Made in England: The Films of Powell and Pressburger	29
Mandabi	40
Marcello Mio	7
The Meaningless Daydreams of Augie & Celeste	14
Meat Puppet	37
Memory	22
Menus-Plaisirs - Les Troisgros	29
Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line	4, 8
Mississippi Masala	43
The Monk and the Gun	17
The Moogai	11, 36
Moolaadé	41
The Moon is Upside Down	23
More Than Strangers	23
Motel Destino	23
The Mountain	11
Mozart's Sister	13
My Freaky Family	33
My New Friends	23
My Old Ass	17
My Stolen Planet	29
My Sunshine	23

N	
A New Kind of Wilderness	29
Niaye	41
No Other Land	30
Nocturnes	30
O	
Occupied City	30
Of the Last Reel in Front Of You	41
One Second Ahead, One Second Behind	23
The Outrun	18
P	
Paradise	23
The Paragon	36
Peeping Tom	43
Pepe	23
The Pool	18
Porcelain War	18
A Postcard from Rome	35
Problemista	24
Puan	8
R	
Rabbit-Proof Fence (4K Restoration)	43
Rapture	24
Rehabilitating	38
The Remarkable Life of Ibelin	30
Renata	42
Resonance	32
Revealed: Otto By Otto	13
Rewards for the Tribe	30
The Ride Ahead	38
The Rye Horn	24
S	
Sasquatch Sunset	24
Say	14
September Says	8
Sex	24
Shambhala	24
She Loved Blossoms More	37
Skategoat	13

Skywalkers: A Love Story	31
The Sloth Lane	33
The Soldier's Lagoon	29
Something Like An Autobiography	24
Soundtrack to a Coup D'Etat	39
The Stimming Pool	38
Stress Positions	24
Sugarcane	31
Sujo	8
Super/Man: The Christopher Reeve Story	31
Suspended Time	25
T	
Tauw	41
Tayal Forest Club	11
Ten Canoes	43
Thelma	25
There's Still Tomorrow	9
This Will Never Last	14
Threshold	38
Toll	25
Touch	18
Transylvanie	37
True Love	42
UV	
Unicorns	25
Unstoppable	38
Untitled Blur Documentary	32
Veni Vidi Vici	25
Việt And Nam	9
WXYZ	
The Waiting	44
Wake Up	37
We Were Dangerous	11
Welcome To Babel	13
Welcome to Yiddishland	13
Wilding	31
Withered Blossoms	44
Woman Of...	25
Xala	40
You Should Have Been Here Yesterday	13

THERE'S MORE TO SFF



Stay tuned to SFF channels for additional films joining the 71st Sydney Film Festival.

SIGN UP TO OUR ENEWS AT SFF.ORG.AU

@SYDFILMFEST
 SYDNEYFILMFESTIVAL
 SFF.ORG.AU

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE															
VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE												OPENING NIGHT – MIDNIGHT OIL... 7:00 PM	✦ P.4, P.8		
DNT 1											SKYWALKERS: A LOVE... 6:15 PM	P.31	UNICORNS 8:30 PM	P.25	
DNT 2											DO NOT EXPECT TOO MUCH FROM THE END... 6:30 PM		P.20		
DNT 3											I SAW THE TV GLOW 6:00 PM	P.22	ONE SECOND AHEAD, ONE... 8:15 PM	P.23	
EVENT 3											CROSSING 6:15 PM	P.20			
EVENT 9											COPA '71 6:30 PM	P.27	WAKE UP + 8:30 PM	P.37	
HOC 5											THE OTRUN 6:00 PM	P.18			
PALC 1											OCCUPIED CITY 6:15 PM		P.30		
PNORT 3											THE RYE HORN 6:30 PM	P.24			
RITZ 5											LA COCINA 6:15 PM	P.22			
AGNSW											MADE IN ENGLAND: THE FILMS.... 7:00 PM		P.29		

THURSDAY 6 JUNE															
VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		CITY OF WIND 10:00 AM		☀ P.20	PEPE 12:15 PM		☀ P.23	ALL SHALL BE WELL 3:10 PM	☀ P.19		PUAN 6:00 PM	☾ P.8	THE BIKERIDERS 8:45 PM		☾ P.16
DNT 1											THE FLATS 6:10 PM	P.28	CUCKOO + 8:45 PM	P.36	
DNT 2											WOMAN OF... 6:00 PM	P.25	MORE THAN STRANGERS 8:35 PM	P.23	
DNT 3											BALOMANIA 6:15 PM	P.26	BLACK BOX DIARIES 8:15 PM	P.27	
EVENT 3											ARCHITECTION 6:15 PM	P.26	VENI VIDI VICI 8:30 PM	P.25	
EVENT 5											IN VITRO 6:30 PM	P.22			
EVENT 9											LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL 6:00 PM	P.29	HEAD SOUTH 8:20 PM	P.32	
HOC 5											THE DEAD DON'T HURT 6:00 PM	P.16	THE RYE HORN 8:35 PM	P.24	
PALC 1											SUGARCANE 6:00 PM	P.31	THE BALLAD OF SUZAN... + 8:20 PM	P.39	
PNORT 3											A POSTCARD FROM R... 6:30 PM	P.35			
RITZ 5											SEX 6:30 PM	P.24			

FRIDAY 7 JUNE															
VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		THE CATS OF GOKOGU SHRINE 10:00 AM		☀ P.27	PUAN 12:45 PM		☀ P.8	THE CONTESTANT 3:20 PM	☀ P.27		THE CONVERT 6:00 PM	☾ P.10, P.16	THERE'S STILL TOMORROW 8:45 PM		☾ P.9
DNT 1											MY OLD ASS 6:30 PM	P.17	PEPE 8:30 PM	P.23	
DNT 2											REWARDS FOR THE TRIBE + 6:00 PM		P.30		
DNT 3											COPA '71 6:15 PM	P.27	THE PARAGON + 8:15 PM	P.36	
EVENT 3											HESITATION WOUND + 6:15 PM	P.22	THE BRIEF HISTORY OF A... 8:20 PM	P.20	
EVENT 5											PROBLEMISTA 6:30 PM	P.24	A DIFFERENT MAN 8:35 PM	P.17	
EVENT 9											CITY OF WIND 6:00 PM	P.20			
HOC 4												LEE 8:00 PM	P.17		
HOC 5											GHOSTLIGHT 6:00 PM	P.21			
PALC 1											SOUNDTRACK TO A COUP D'ETAT 6:00 PM	P.39	CUCKOO + 9:00 PM	P.36	
PNORT 3											THE DEAD DON'T HURT 6:30 PM	P.16			
RITZ 1											A HORSE NAMED WINX 7:00 PM		P.28		
RITZ 5											EZRA 6:00 PM	P.21	MOTEL DESTINO 8:15 PM	P.23	
SLNSW											MOZART'S SISTER 6:00 PM	P.13			

- OFFICIAL COMPETITION
- SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
- FEATURES
- DOCUMENTARY AUSTRALIA
- INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARIES
- OTHER

■ Screenability ✦ Flexipass not accepted 👤 Family Fun
 + Short included ☀ Daytime Subscribers ☾ Evening Subscribers

STATE State Theatre	DNT Dendy Newtown	PNORT Palace Norton Street	RITZ The Ritz Cinema Randwick	AGNSW Art Gallery of NSW
EVENT Event Cinemas George St	PALC Palace Central	HOC Hayden Orpheum Cremorne	SLNSW The State Library of NSW	IMAX IMAX Sydney

SEE P42 FOR INFO ON FILMS SCREENING JUNE 22-23 AS PART OF NANCY SAVOCA: TRUE LOVE STORIES

SATURDAY 8 JUNE

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		THE MONK AND THE GUN 9:15 AM P.17		THERE'S STILL TOMORROW 11:30 AM P.9		REVEALED: OTTO BY OTTO 2:00 PM P.13		DAHOMEY 4:25 PM P.16		THE POOL 6:15 PM P.18		KINDS OF KINDNESS 8:30 PM P.7			
DNT 1								WILDING + 3:45 PM P.31		THE MOON IS UPSIDE DOWN 6:00 PM P.23		STRESS POSITIONS 8:30 PM P.24			
DNT 2								THE RIDE AHEAD + 3:15 PM P.38		THE CONTESTANT 5:40 PM P.27		PEEPING TOM 8:15 PM P.43			
DNT 3								MISSISSIPPI MASALA 3:00 PM P.43		SEX 5:30 PM P.24		VENI VIDI VICI 8:45 PM P.25			
EVENT 3						MY FREAKY FAMILY 2:00 PM P.33		THE BONES 4:00 PM P.27		ALIENOID 6:00 PM P.19		ALIENOID: RETURN TO THE FUTURE 8:45 PM P.19			
EVENT 4								ABOUT DRY GRASSES 4:30 PM P.19							
EVENT 5										I SAW THE TV GLOW 6:15 PM P.22		THE MOOGAI 8:30 PM P.11, P.36			
EVENT 9								THE HOME GAME 4:15 PM P.28		THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF... 6:30 PM P.30					
HOC 4												THE BIKERIDERS 7:30 PM P.16			
HOC 5							COTTONTAIL 2:30 PM P.20		SUPER/MAN: THE CHRIS... 4:45 PM P.31						
PALC 1								THE CATS OF GOKOGU SHRINE 4:30 PM P.27		CROSSING 7:15 PM P.20					
PNORT 3										MORE THAN STRANGERS 5:30 PM P.23		LA COCINA 7:30 PM P.22			
RITZ 1										MY OLD ASS 6:30 PM P.17					
RITZ 3										DEATH OF A WHISTLEBLOWER 6:15 PM P.20					
RITZ 5							MADE IN ENGLAND: THE FILMS... 3:15 PM P.29			UNICORNS 6:00 PM P.25		IN VITRO 8:30 PM P.22			
AGNSW		TEN CANOES 10:15 AM P.43		BLACK GIRL 12:45 PM P.40		MANDABI 2:30 PM P.40									
SLNSW								RESONANCE 4:00 PM P.32		WELCOME TO BABEL 6:00 PM P.13					

SUNDAY 9 JUNE

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		THE MOUNTAIN 9:30 AM P.11		PORCELAIN WAR 11:45 AM P.18		DYING 2:00 PM P.6				MIDNIGHT OIL: THE HARDEST LINE 6:00 PM P.4, P.8		VIET AND NAM 8:35 PM P.9			
DNT 1						THE CATS OF GOKOGU SHRINE 1:15 PM P.27		HEAD SOUTH 4:00 PM P.32		IN VITRO 6:30 PM P.22		THE MOOGAI 8:45 PM P.11, P.36			
DNT 2						GOOD BAD THINGS + 2:00 PM P.38		REWARDS FOR THE TRIBE + 4:30 PM P.30		AFTERWAR 7:00 PM P.34					
DNT 3							DAHOMEY 2:45 PM P.16	IN THE REARVIEW 4:15 PM P.28		ARCHITECTION 6:15 PM P.26		HESITATION WOUND + 8:15 PM P.22			
EVENT 3						200% WOLF 1:45 PM P.33		ALL SHALL BE WELL 4:00 PM P.19		YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN... 6:15 PM P.13		THE PARAGON + 8:30 PM P.36			
EVENT 5										STRESS POSITIONS 6:00 PM P.24		PEPE 8:20 PM P.23			
EVENT 9								MENUS-PLAISIRS - LES TROISGRS 3:30 PM P.29							
EVENT 11					BLACK BOX DIARIES 12:45 PM P.27		THE FLATS 3:10 PM P.28		ONE SECOND AHEAD, ONE... 5:45 PM P.23		DEATH OF A WHISTLEBLOWER 8:15 PM P.20				
HOC 5						MOZART'S SISTER 3:00 PM P.13		THE POOL 5:30 PM P.18		THE CONVERT 8:00 PM P.10, P.16					
PALC 1						AMONG THE WOLVES + 2:15 PM P.26		THE SOLDIER'S LAGOON 4:15 PM P.39		ESSENTIAL TRUTHS OF THE LAKE 6:00 PM P.21					
PNORT 3							THE HOME GAME 4:00 PM P.28		MY NEW FRIENDS 6:00 PM P.23						
RITZ 1							A HORSE NAMED WINX 3:00 PM P.28								
RITZ 3										THE MOON IS UPSIDE DOWN 6:00 PM P.23					
RITZ 5								COTTONTAIL 4:15 PM P.20		THELMA + 6:15 PM P.25		SUSPENDED TIME 8:30 PM P.25			
AGNSW		EMITAI 10:15 AM P.40		XALA 12:30 PM P.40		PEEPING TOM 3:00 PM P.43									
SLNSW							LEE 2:30 PM P.17			WELCOME TO YIDDISHLAND 5:30 PM P.13					
IMAX										SKYWALKERS: A LOVE... 6:00 PM P.31					

MONDAY 10 JUNE - PUBLIC HOLIDAY

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		KINDS OF KINDNESS 9:30 AM P.7			COPA '71 1:15 PM P.27		GREEN BORDER 3:15 PM P.17			A DIFFERENT MAN 6:15 PM P.17		MY OLD ASS 8:40 PM P.17			
DNT 1									YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN... 4:15 PM P.13	PROBLEMISTA 6:15 PM P.24					
DNT 2										THE LOST CHILDREN 6:00 PM P.35		TOLL 8:00 PM P.25			
DNT 3						MENUS-PLAISIRS - LES TROISGRS 1:00 PM P.29				BLACK SNOW + 5:30 PM P.27					
EVENT 3						RABBIT PROOF FENCE 2:00 PM P.43		THE BONES 4:15 PM P.27		HUNTING DAZE + 6:30 PM P.36					
EVENT 5								THE REMARKABLE LIFE... 4:30 PM P.30							
EVENT 11								SOMETHING LIKE AN... 4:00 PM P.24		EXCURSION 6:00 PM P.34					
HOC 5							REVEALED: OTTO BY OTTO 3:30 PM P.13			SUSPENDED TIME 6:00 PM P.25					
PALC 1						OCCUPIED CITY 2:00 PM P.30									
PNORT 3								WILDING + 4:00 PM P.31		THERE'S STILL TOMORROW 6:15 PM P.9					
RITZ 3										SUPER/MAN: THE CHRIS... 6:00 PM P.31					
RITZ 5		MY FREAKY FAMILY 10:00 AM P.33				WELCOME TO YIDDISHLAND 2:00 PM P.13		THE MOUNTAIN 4:15 PM P.11							
AGNSW		CEDDO + 10:15 AM P.41			GUELWAAR 1:00 PM P.41										
SLNSW						ABOUT DRY GRASSES 12:00 PM P.19		GHOSTLIGHT 4:00 PM P.21							

TUESDAY 11 JUNE

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		VIET AND NAM 10:00 AM			DYING 12:55 PM				DAHOMY 4:45 PM		SEPTEMBER SAYS 6:20 PM		KID SNOW 8:30 PM		
DNT 1											LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL 6:15 PM				
DNT 2											ESSENTIAL TRUTHS OF THE LAKE 6:00 PM				
DNT 3											THE BATTLE FOR LAIKIPIA 6:30 PM				
EVENT 3											ACHILLES 6:00 PM				
EVENT 5											THE BLIND SEA 6:15 PM				
EVENT 9											SASQUATCH SUNSET 6:45 PM				
EVENT 11											IN THE REARVIEW 6:30 PM				
HOC 5											MEMORY 6:00 PM				
PALC 1											WELCOME TO BABEL 6:00 PM		AFTERWAR 8:20 PM		
PNORT 3											WOMAN OF... 6:30 PM				
RITZ 1											THE BIKERIDERS 7:00 PM				
RITZ 5											A DIFFERENT MAN 6:30 PM				

WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		NOCTURNES 10:00 AM		HOUSE OF THE SEASONS 12:15 PM			SEPTEMBER SAYS 3:05 PM				THE OUTRUN 6:00 PM		SUJO 8:30 PM		
DNT 1											CROSSING 6:15 PM		DADDIO 8:30 PM		
DNT 2											THE RIDE AHEAD + 6:30 PM		EXCURSION 8:45 PM		
DNT 3											ELLOGIERDU - THE TUNDRA WITH... 6:00 PM				
EVENT 3											FLATHEAD 6:00 PM		EXPLANATION FOR EVERYTHING 8:15 PM		
EVENT 5											SKYWALKERS: A LOVE... 6:30 PM				
EVENT 9											CHAIRMAN CLIFT - LIFE... 6:00 PM		EEPHUS 8:15 PM		
EVENT 11											THE LOST CHILD... 6:20 PM				
HOC 5											DEATH OF A WHISTLEBLOWER 6:00 PM				
PALC 1											FLICKERING LIGHTS 6:15 PM		THE SOLDIER'S LAG... 8:25 PM		
PNORT 3											COTTONTAIL 6:30 PM				
RITZ 1											KINDS OF KINDNESS 7:00 PM				
RITZ 5											THE CONVERT 6:15 PM				
AGNSW											TRUE LOVE + 7:00 PM				

THURSDAY 13 JUNE

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		THELMA + 9:30 AM		SHAMBHALA 11:50 AM			SUJO 3:05 PM				ALL WE IMAGINE IS LIGHT 6:00 PM		THE DEAD DON'T HURT 8:40 PM		
DNT 1											NO OTHER LAND 6:30 PM		WAKE UP + 8:45 PM		
DNT 2											GOOD BAD THINGS + 8:00 PM		ACHILLES 8:30 PM		
DNT 3											I SAW THE TV GLOW 6:15 PM		DOGFIGHT + 8:15 PM		
EVENT 3											THE CARS THAT ATE PARIS 6:15 PM		DO NOT EXPECT TOO MUCH FROM THE END... 8:30 PM		
EVENT 5											ALIENOID 6:30 PM				
EVENT 9											WE WERE DANGEROUS + 6:00 PM				
EVENT 11													PARADISE 8:30 PM		
HOC 4											EZRA 6:00 PM				
HOC 5											GREEN BORDER 6:00 PM				
PALC 1											NOCTURNES 6:15 PM		SOUNDTRACK TO A COUP D'ETAT 8:20 PM		
PNORT 3											A NEW KIND OF WILDERN... 6:30 PM				
RITZ 3											THE MONK AND THE GUN 6:30 PM				
RITZ 5											GHOSTLIGHT 6:15 PM				

- OFFICIAL COMPETITION
- DOCUMENTARY AUSTRALIA
- SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
- INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARIES
- FEATURES
- OTHER

- Screenability
- ❖ Flexipass not accepted
- 👤 Family Fun
- + Short included
- ☀ Daytime Subscribers
- 🌙 Evening Subscribers

STATE State Theatre	DNT Dendy Newtown	PNORT Palace Norton Street	RITZ The Ritz Cinema Randwick	AGNSW Art Gallery of NSW
EVENT Event Cinemas George St	PALC Palace Central	HOC Hayden Orpheum Cremorne	SLNSW The State Library of NSW	IMAX IMAX Sydney

SEE P42 FOR INFO ON FILMS SCREENING JUNE 22-23 AS PART OF NANCY SAVOCA: TRUE LOVE STORIES

FRIDAY 14 JUNE

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE		AGENT OF HAPPINESS 10:00 AM		MIDNIGHT OIL: THE HARDEST... 12:30 PM		ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT 3:05 PM				TOUCH 6:00 PM		KNEECAP 8:45 PM			
DNT 1										PORCELAIN WAR 6:30 PM		ARMAND 8:45 PM			
DNT 2										THE BLIND SEA 6:15 PM		MOTEL DESTINO 8:30 PM			
DNT 3										RAPTURE 6:00 PM		HUNTING DAZE + 9:00 PM			
EVENT 3										MY SUNSHINE 6:00 PM		HE AIN'T HEAVY 8:15 PM			
EVENT 5										ALIENOID: RETURN TO THE FUTURE 6:15 PM		KILL + 9:00 PM			
EVENT 9										AQUARIUS 6:30 PM		KA WHAWHAI TONU 8:35 PM			
HOC 4										KID SNOW 7:00 PM					
HOC 5										MY NEW FRIENDS 6:15 PM		DADDIO 8:15 PM			
PALC 1										THE BALLAD OF SUZA... + 6:00 PM		ARCHITECTON 8:15 PM			
PNORT 3										ELLOGIERDU - THE TUNDRA WIT... + 6:00 PM		SUSPENDED TIME 8:40 PM			
RITZ 1										THE OUTRUN 6:00 PM					
RITZ 5										SASQUATCH SUNSET 6:15 PM		EXPLANATION FOR EVERYTHING 8:05 PM			
SLNSW										DALE FRANK - NOBODY'S SWE... 6:00 PM					

SATURDAY 15 JUNE

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE	EVERY LITTLE THING 9:15 AM		KNEECAP 11:30 AM		DESPICABLE ME 4 1:45 PM		LEE 4:00 PM		MARCELLO MIO 6:30 PM		GRAND TOUR 9:00 PM				
DNT 1					IMMORTALS 1:00 PM		WE WERE DANGEROUS 3:30 PM		MY SUNSHINE 6:00 PM		SHE LOVED BLOSSOMS MORE + 8:15 PM				
DNT 2					FLICKERING LIGHTS 1:45 PM		THE STIMMING P... + 4:00 PM		FLATHEAD 5:45 PM		HE AIN'T HEAVY 8:00 PM				
DNT 3					IT'S OKAY! 1:30 PM		AQUARIUS 4:10 PM		PARADISE 6:15 PM						
EVENT 3			THE SLOTH LANE 12:00 PM		BALOMANIA 2:00 PM		AGENT OF HAPPINESS 4:00 PM		EZRA 6:15 PM		TOLL 8:20 PM				
EVENT 4						DENDY AWARDS 3:00 PM		NO OTHER LAND 6:00 PM							
EVENT 5						HOUSE OF THE SEASONS 3:15 PM		SKATEGOAT 6:20 PM		CUCKOO + 8:30 PM					
EVENT 9								EXPOSURE 6:30 PM							
HOC 4							FEDERER: LAST TWELVE... 4:30 PM		TOUCH 7:00 PM						
HOC 5						SHAMBHALA 2:30 PM		ABOUT DRY GRASSES 6:00 PM							
PALC 1					BLACK SNOW + 2:00 PM		MY STOLEN PLANET 4:15 PM		SOMETHING LIKE AN... 6:10 PM		JE'VIDA + 8:00 PM				
PNORT 3					MENUS-PLAISIRS - LES TROISGROS 1:00 PM		AGENT OF HAPPINESS 4:00 PM		HESITATION WOUND + 5:30 PM		DYING 7:35 PM				
RITZ 1						THE POOL 3:00 PM		KID SNOW 5:30 PM		UNTITLED BLUR DOCUMENT... 8:30 PM					
RITZ 3								GREEN BORDER 5:45 PM							
RITZ 5			200% WOLF 12:00 PM					EPPHUS 6:00 PM		PROBLEMISTA 8:30 PM					
AGNSW			CAMP DE THIAROYE 10:30 AM		DALE FRANK - NOBODY'S SWEETIE 1:30 PM										
SLNSW					THE MOUNTAIN 1:00 PM		CHAIRMAN CLIFT - LIFE... 3:30 PM		MEMORY 6:00 PM						

SUNDAY 16 JUNE

VENUE	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM
STATE	MARCELLO MIO 9:30 AM		GRAND TOUR 12:00 PM		TO BE ANNOUNCED 2:45 PM							CLOSING NIGHT 07:00 PM			
DNT 1					AGENT OF HAPPINESS 2:00 PM		SKATEGOAT 4:15 PM		THE MONK AND THE GUN 6:30 PM		KILL + 8:40 PM				
DNT 2				MY STOLEN PLANET 12:15 PM		THE STIMMING P... + 2:15 PM		A NEW KIND OF WILDERN... 4:00 PM		ALL WE IMAGINE IS LIGHT 6:15 PM		THE BATTLE FOR LAIKIPIA 8:30 PM			
DNT 3				IT'S OKAY! 1:45 PM		SUGARCANE 3:50 PM		SUJO 6:05 PM							
EVENT 3					SHAMBHALA 3:00 PM		BRIEF HISTORY OF A FAMILY 6:30 PM		SHE LOVED BLOSSOMS MORE + 8:45 PM						
EVENT 4						FEDERER: THE LAST TWEL... 3:45 PM		UNTITLED BLUR DOCUMENT... 6:15 PM							
EVENT 5						DENDY AWARDS 3:45 PM		ARMAND 6:05 PM							
EVENT 9					SUPER/MAN: THE CHRIST... 2:00 PM		EVERY LITTLE THING 4:15 PM								
EVENT 11								RAPTURE 6:00 PM							
HOC 5						A POSTCARD FROM R... 2:00 PM		PUAN 4:00 PM							
PALC 1					AMONG THE WOLVES + 2:15 PM		IMMORTALS 4:15 PM								
PNORT 3					JE'VIDA 2:30 PM		ACHILLES 5:15 PM								
RITZ 1							KNEECAP 4:15 PM		DADDIO 6:30 PM						
RITZ 3			THE SLOTH LANE 10:30 AM												
RITZ 5						YOU SHOULD HAVE BE... 2:00 PM		KA WHAWHAI TONU 3:45 PM		WILDING + 6:20 PM					
AGNSW			MOOLADE + 10:30 AM		HOUSEHOLD SAINTS 2:00 PM										
SLNSW								LA COCINA 4:30 PM							

THANKS TO OUR 2024 PARTNERS

Principal State Government Partners



Principal Local Government Partner



Major Federal Government Partner



Programming Partner



Local Government Partners



Major Partners



Supporting Partners



Associate Partners



Australian Documentary Award Partner



First Nations Award Partner



Australian Short Film Award Partners



Media Partners



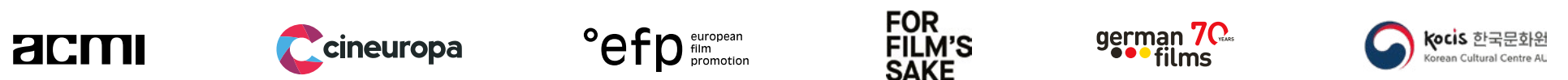
Event & Production Partners



Venue Partners



Industry & Cultural Partners



SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL THANKS ITS PATRONS

Current as at time of publishing

Sydney Film Festival relies on the generous support of individuals, without whom the Festival wouldn't exist.



LIFE PATRON

Peter Ivany AO and Sharon Ivany

FESTIVAL VISIONARY

Andrew Cameron AM and Cathy Cameron
Nicole Kidman AC
Amanda Maple-Brown
Zareh and Ping Nalbandian
Truant Pictures
WeirAnderson Foundation

DIRECTOR'S CHAMPION

Constellation Creatives
Ian Darling AO and Min Darling
Nick and Sandra Fairfax
Anne and Mark Lazberger
Dr Kathryn Lovric and Dr Roger Allan
Adrian and Charlotte MacKenzie
Shark Island Foundation
Will and Jane Vicars

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE

Brian Abel and Mark Manton
Animal Logic Entertainment
Bronte Pictures
Suzanne and Anthony Maple-Brown
Nicole McKenna and Chris Freeland AM
Sam Meers AO
Kate Mills
Beau Neilson
Michael and Vivienne Selwyn
Annie Williams
Anonymous (1)

DIRECTOR'S ASSOCIATES

Deb and John Balderstone
David and Leith Bruce-Steer
Bunya Productions
Sally Cousens and John Stuckey
Darren Dale | Blackfella Films
Rick Gove
Trisha and Bill Heaton
Olivia Humphrey
Zach Kitschke
Lambert Bridge Foundation
See-Saw Films
The Sky Foundation
Spectrum Films

WOMEN'S GIVING COLLECTIVE

Nicole Kidman ac – 2023-2024 Ambassador

Cate Aarons
Kirsty Albert
Hayley Baillie
Wendy Beckett
Deborah Bell
Iolanda Capodanno and Juergen Krufczyk
Francesca Duncan
Debra Eckersley
Mandy Foley
Cheryl Hayman
Sally Herman
Anita Jacoby AM
Terry Kaljo
Jacqueline Kerwick
Blainey North
Nicole O'Donohue
Lucy Randall
Ruth Ritchie Family Fund

DIRECTOR'S CUT

Nick and Simone Abrahams
Rob and Sandra Antulov
David Barnes
Alice Bell and Leon Ford
Chris and Annerie Bell
Rosemary Blight and Ben Grant
Blue Cat Pictures
Charlene and Graham Bradley AM
Carole Campbell
Jan Chapman AO and Stephen O'Rourke
Rob and Maddie Coe
Anne and David Craig
Goalpost Pictures
Sally Herman
Adam Herron
Leonie and David Jackson
Tim and Akiko Jackson
Lonergan Family
Dr Stephen McNamara
Keith Rodger | 98 | Fear Of God Films
Dr Gene Sherman AM | Sherman Foundation
Doug and Chris Snedden
Ezekiel Solomon AM
Ashley and Aveen Stephenson
Martyn Thompson
Will Wilson

DIRECTOR'S LAB

Drew Bailey
Annmaree Bell and John Frank
Diana Burnett

Jean-Marc Carriol
Anna Cleary
Constellation Creatives
Sophie Cox
Brendan Donoghue
Elissa Down
Entropico
Rupert and Caitlin Forwood
Alison Fowler
Donna Frost
Vince Frost
Antaine Furlong
Anthony Igra
Amanda Jermyn and Elly Clapin
Amanda Maple-Brown
McGregor Casting
David Michôd
Stephanie Pringle
Alyson Standen
Kelly Vincent
Frances Wallace
Alice Yang
Jo Yeldham
Anonymous (1)

SUPPORTING CAST

Libby Anderson
Wendy and Sophie Ashton
Nadia Banihali
David Barnes
Stephen Basil-Jones
Terence Bell
Alex Bowen and Catherine Sullivan
Mark Bowman
Liz Boyle
Candice Bruce
Suellen Chapman
Christina Chiam
Leo Christie OAM
Catherine Cooney
Megan Coughran
Simon Cundy
Susanne De Ferranti
Roger Dean
Lucy Di Maggio
Paige Diamond
Roselyn Diprose
Erich Domingo
Jacqui Feeney
Laurie Ferguson
Jez Fletcher
Valmae Freilich
David Full
John Gleeson
Su Goldfish

Noelene Hall
Susi Hamilton
Michele Harrowell
Angelo Hatsatouris
Margaret R Hawkins
Louise Head
David Hendler
Melissa Heris
Kim Jackson
Sue Josephsen
Jackie Katz
Maria Kelly
Annie Kinnane
Julia Laverty
Craig Lenehan SC
Chris and Carey Little
MinMin Liu
Annette Mauer
Joan McDonald
Kirsty McEwin
Alison McIntyre
Anna McPherson
Kristof Mikes-Liu
Judi Mitchell
Lindy Monson
Jane and Ian Morrison
June Murphy
Joseph Nguyen
Jan O'Reilly
Charles Ovidia
Jonathan Page
Rosalie Paino
Pamela
Trevor Parkin
Janette Parkinson
Heather Payne
Pip Rath and Wayne Lonergan
Alex-Oonagh Redmond
Belinda Roberts
Shefali Rovik
Georgia Shepherd
Kit Shepherd
Lucy Sorentino
Liz Stevens
Eden Tollis
Marcus Trimble
Ross Tzannes AM
Kay Vernon
Liz Watts
Judith Withers
Jane Wynter
Julie Young
Anonymous (15)
...and you?

SEE IT YOUR WAY

GET YOUR TICKETS AT SFF.ORG.AU

