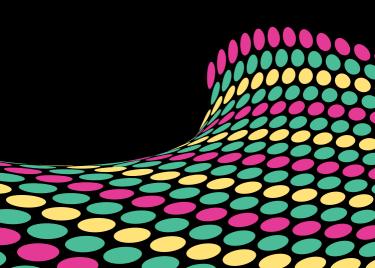
COFFS COAST HEART OF FILM



PROGRAM



SWIFF 2017



Welcome to SWIFF 2017. It's been twelve months since our inaugural festival made its dynamic debut, introducing both local and travelling audiences to the Coffs Coast film festival experience. This year we bring back SWIFF to be the beating heart of film across the Coffs Coast with 70 sessions, including special events, gala screenings, short films, industry sessions, and the most compelling new films from Australia and around the globe, all packed into 17 days across summer.

Along with titles from the world film festival circuit including Cannes, Sundance, Hot Docs, and Toronto, SWIFF tips its hat to Screenwave's past programs while ushering in some new guests to the party. We answer the Call of the Surf, celebrate Women on Film, discover the power of the documentary form, and witness the forever changing landscape of world cinema. Face the Change, our 2017 festival theme - and program of the same name- gives a voice and a platform for the changemakers of modern cinema and filmmakers of the future.

We also celebrate the fact that cinema is accessible to everyone with Access All Areas, a free short film and performance program that celebrates individual merits and talents, and not letting our different abilities define who we are.

Our region's film festival adds a new venue to the line-up with Birch, Carrol & Coyle Cinemas Coffs Harbour coming on board for Gala Screenings. For those films that leave you with more questions than answers, Element Bar is the official SWIFF Festival Hub to discuss. eat. drink. and talk film.

You, our audience, enable us to continue to grow and develop Coffs Coast as the heart of film. Make sure to grab a Film Pass to get the most of out of your festival experience and go paperless by downloading the free SWIFF mobile app for iPhone or Android.

From all of us in the SWIFF team, we hope you enjoy this year's festival.

Kate Howat, Artistic Director

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SWIFF would not be possible without our fabulous festival partners, our core team and the generous time and energy of our wonderful volunteers. Thank you one and all!

SWIFF TEAM

Kate Howat - Artistic Director
Dave Horsley - Festival Director
Julie Toussaint - Marketing Manager
Ben Toussaint - Digital Manager
Tayla Kidd - Volunteer Coordinator
Colleen O'Brien - Guest Coordinator
Kylie Castor - Community Engagement Coordinator
Matt Kidd - Festival Photographer
Alison Heeley - Front of House



STRATEGIC





CREATIVE INDUSTRIES







LOCAL GOVERNMENT





FESTIVAL HUB



ELEMENT BAR

BEVERAGE



TOURISM





ACCESS ALL AREAS



Community
Care Options

EDUCATION



MEDIA









COMMUNITY







VENUES







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VENUES, TICKETS, APP

36

Join us on the red carpet to celebrate the official opening of SWIFF 2017. On arrival enjoy delectable delights from Coffs Coast favourite, The Happy Frog, plus drinks and entertainment. Then stay on for the post-film party at the SWIFF Festival Hub. Element Bar (18+ only).

SONITA

WED 4 JAN | 6PM for 7PM | JMT SUN 8 JAN | 2.00PM | BMH

D. Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami | 91mins | IRN | 15+

Winner of the 2016 world documentary Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award at Sundance, Sonita tells the remarkable, inspirational story of a defiant 14-year old Afghan refugee living in Iran, where it is forbidden for females to sing solo, whose dream in life is to become a



rap star like Rihanna. Sonita's family have a very different future planned for her: as a bride she's worth \$9,000. From acclaimed documentarian Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami, Sonita is a compassionate and feel-good portrait of an extraordinary young woman discovering the power of her voice.

CLOSING NIGHT

Like all good things, SWIFF 2017 must come to an end, but not before we sprinkle a little razzle dazzle your way with League of Exotique Dancers. On arrival enjoy tantalising treats, entertainment and drinks. Afterwards help us send off the festival in style at the Festival Hub. Element Bar (18+ only).

LEAGUE OF EXOTIQUE DANCERS

SAT 28 IAN I 6PM for 7PM I IMT

D. Rama Rau | 90mins | USA | 15+

NSW Regional Premiere

Acclaimed director Rama Rau brings a dazzling and daring group of women from the heydays of Burlesque out of retirement and onto the big screen in all their full-feathered and fabulously frocked (and un-frocked) glory. League



of Exotique Dancers celebrates the legends and pioneers of Burlesque, featuring nine Titans of Tease, who trail blazed and wowed audiences from the late 1950's to Burlesque's waning days in the late 1970's. As these ladies of sass and sauce prepare to give a live performance at the Legends of Burlesque Hall of Fame in Las Vegas, they share their intimate stories through rare archival footage, peeling off the layers of glitter to expose the sexism, racism and widespread stigma faced by Burlesque striptease performers of the era. League of Exotique Dancers is one night at the theatre you won't want to miss.

Come raise a glass with us for this special selection of premium screenings, for one night only at BCC Cinemas. Enjoy a complimentary beer or bubbles on arrival.

ONE MORE TIME WITH FEELING

SUN 15 JAN | 6:15pm for 6:45pm | BCC

D. Andrew Dominik | 112mins | AUS | M

NSW Regional Premiere

A unique one night only cinema event from Nick Cave and director Andrew Dominik (Chopper, The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert



Ford, Killing Them Softly), One More Time With Feeling was originally a performance based concept, but evolved into something much more significant as Dominik delved into the tragic backdrop of the writing and recording of the Skeleton Tree. Interwoven throughout the Bad Seeds' filmed performance of the new album are interviews and footage shot by Dominik, accompanied by Cave's narration and improvised rumination. Filmed in black-and-white and colour, in both 3D and 2D, the result is fragile, raw and a true testament to an artist trying to find his way through the darkness.

TONI ERDMANN

SUN 22 JAN | 6:15pm for 6:45pm | BCC

D. Maren Ade | 162mins | DEU | M

NSW Regional Premiere

Winner of the FIPRESCI Award at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival and Nominated for the Palme d'Or, Toni Erdmann was inndisputably the critical smash of Cannes and the world festival circuit. The third film



from German writer/director Maren Ade is a dysfunctional father/daughter portrait quite unlike any other: equal parts screwball and sublime, it's the kind of breathless filmmaking that galvanises even the hardest of cynics. With fantastic, fearless performances from its leads, a bizarre sense of humour, and a real honesty in its treatment of the complexities of familial relationships, Toni Erdmann is a truly unforgettable cinematic experience.

THE ROOM

FRI 27 JAN | 8.30PM | JMT

D. Tommy Wiseau | 99mins | USA | M

This is your chance to see Tommy Wiseau's indescribable film in all its glory - a piece of cinema so transcendentally awful that it has become a cult phenomenon. Audiences around the world have embraced the terribleness of Wiseau's 'masterpiece', regularly attending sessions to hurl insults and plastic



cutlery at the screen. With plot holes, uncomfortable sex scenes and a bizarre performance from Tommy Wiseau himself, The Room is a truly unforgettable experience. Bring a sense of the absurd and a willingness to participate in the mayhem!

Download The Room audience participation guide at SWIFF.COM.AU

INDUSTRY CONNECT



Discover a collection of personal stories from award-winning female directors and pioneers of the industry.

HEART OF A DOG

THU 12 JAN | 11.30AM | JMT

D. Laurie Anderson | 75mins | USA | PG

Artist and musician Laurie Anderson offers poignant meditation on love, childhood, stories and belief, is also an ode to her late mother, partner Lou Reed and beloved dog Lolabelle. Fusing her own witty, inquisitive narration with original violin compositions, hand-drawn



animation, 8mm home movies and artwork culled from exhibitions past and present, Anderson examines how stories are constructed and told — and how we use them to make sense of our lives

BAXTER & ME

WED 18 JAN | 2.00PM | BMH THU 19 JAN | 4.30PM | JMT

D. Gillian Leahy | 83mins | AUS | 15+

SPECIAL GUEST - Gillian Leahy

Winner of the 2016 AWGIE Award for Documentary (along with Margot Nash' The Silencesat SWIFF) and nominee for the Documentary Australia Foundation Award,



acclaimed filmmaker Gillian Leahy and producer Sue Brooks (Japanese Story) offer a very personal tale that combines Gill's two great passions: dogs and film. Through childhood illness and heartbreak there have always been dogs. Today, Gill shares her life with a big brown Labrador called Baxter. If you've ever had a dog, or ever loved a dog, or ever known any one to have a dog...then you will love this funny, touching and thought-provoking film.

LOVESONG

FRI 20 IAN | 11.30AM | IMT

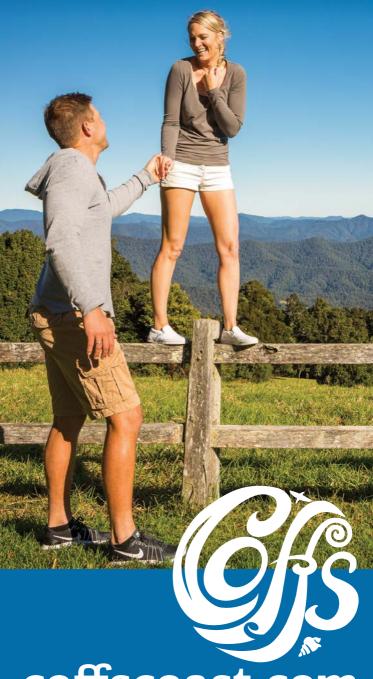
D. So Yong Kim | 86mins | USA | 15+

From Sundance Film Festival alumna, So Yong Kim, comes a beautifully crafted and understated love story about unspoken desire and the grey areas that define every relationship, romance and marriage. Starring indie darling Jena Malone (also in The Neon Demon at SWIFF), Riley Keogh (Mad Max:Fury Road) as two distant friends who



embark on an impromtu roadtrip to try and rebuild a once intimate connection.

#createyourparadise



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DESTINATION ARNOLD

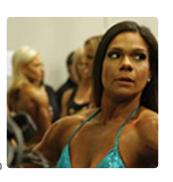
SAT 21 JAN | 2.00PM | JMT SUN 22 JAN | 11.30AM | BMH

D. Sascha Ettinger-Epstein | 70mins | AUS | 15+

SPECIAL GUESTS - Natasha Lawrence, Sascha Epstein & Kylene Anderson

Destination Arnold is a fascinating portrait of two powerful but very different Indigenous women.

Natasha Lawrence and Kylene Anderson, and their determination to make it to the Arnolds, an invitation-only bodybuilding competition named after Schwarzenegger himself. What transpires is not only a captivating look in to the strange world of bodybuilding but more a testament to family ties, friendship and endurance. An irrepressible feel-good story with a big heart - and even bigger muscles.



THE SILENCES

SAT 22 JAN | 2PM | BMH SUN 27 JAN | 11.30AM | JMT

D. Margot Nash | 73mins | AUS | M

SPECIAL GUEST - Director Margot Nash

Shot over a 7-year period, Margot Nash' 2016 AWGIE Award Winning film is a personal essay documentary about the tangled bonds, secret histories and unspoken traumas of family

histories and unspoken traumas of family life that stretches from New Zealand to the Australian suburbs. An exploration of early childhood and the "silences" of the past that resonate in the present.





SUPPORTED LOCALLY BY



Community Care Options

THU 19 JAN | 11AM - 1PM | JMT ALL AGES | FREE

Access All Areas is a free sidebar to SWIFF 2017, proudly supported locally by Community Care Options. The film program, curated by Bardic Studios, involves a program of accessible short films complete with open captions, hearing loop availability, with access options available to patrons.



The program features a family-friendly line-up of new Australian short films,

plus a live hooping performance by retro-star hula gal Teaki Hoops, an energy-infused Zumba demonstration, live AUSLAN sign language interpretation, and a DJ set by the incredible DJ Shemozzle!

Book your free ticket at swiff.com.au, via the SWIFF mobile app or at the Jetty Theatre Box Office.









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SCHEDULE

	KEY		CLASSIFICATIONS	
RP	NSW Regional Premiere Special Guest		Please check classifications on every film. Some films are restricted to 18-, others to 15-, and some films are suitable for all ages	
SG			are suitable for all ages	
4 JAN	I JETTY MEMORIAL THEATRE			
	6PM FOR 7PM	Sonita - Op	ening Night	D. Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami 91mins IRN 15+
5 JAN	JETTY MEN	MORIAL T	HEATRE	
	11.30AM	Life, Anima	ted	D. Roger Ross Williams 91mins USA PG RP
	2.00PM	A Perfect D	ay	D. Fernando Leon de Aranoa 106mins ESP M
	4.30PM		old: Reveries nected World	D. Werner Hertzog 98mins USA M
	6.30PM	Like Crazy		D. Paolo Virzi 118mins ITA 15+
	8.45PM Suburra			D. Stefano Sollima 129mins ITA R18+
6 JAN	JETTY MEMORIAL THEATRE			
	11.30AM	Francofonia The Land of the Enlightened Zero Days View From a Blue Moon		D. Aleksandr Sokurov 90mins RUS, FRA M
	2.00PM			D. Pieter-Jan De Pue 87mins AFG 15+ RP
	4.15PM			D. Alex Gibney 114mins USA M
	6.30PM			D. Blake Kueny 75mins (with short) USA 10+
	8.30PM	Down Unde	er	D. Abe Forsythe 94mins AUS MA15+
7 JAN	JETTY MEN	Y MEMORIAL THEATRE		
	11.30AM	The Fits		D. Anna Roe Holmer 71mins USA PG RP
	2.00PM	National Bird: Drone Wars		D. Sonia Kennebeck 92mins USA M
	4.30PM	You and Me)	D. Lorenzo DeCampos, Taylor Montemarano, Michael Lawrence 87mins AUS PG SG
	6.30PM	Hell or High Water		D. David Mackenzie 102mins USA MA15+
	8.45PM	The Neon D	lemon	D. Nicolas Winding Refn 112mins USA R18+ RP

SCHEDULE

8 JAN	BELLINGEN	N MEMORIAL HALL	
	11.30AM	Girl Asleep	D. Rosemary Myers 77mins AUS M
	2.00PM	Sonita	D. Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami 91mins IRN 15+
	4.30PM	A Life of its Own	D. Helen Kapolos 81mins AUS PG SG
	6.30PM	Down Under	D. Abe Forsythe 94mins AUS MA15+
12 JAN	JETTY MEMORIAL THEATRE		
	11.30AM	Heart of a Dog	D. Laurie Anderson 75mins USA PG
	2.00PM	Tower	D. Keith Maitland 96mins USA 15+ RP
	4.30PM	Cluster	D. Kai Neville 60mins + short USA 15+
	6.30PM	Trespass Against Us	D. Adam Smith 94mins GBR MA15+
	8.30PM	Green Room	D. Jeremy Saulnier 95mins USA R18+
13 JAN	JETTY MEMORIAL THEATRE		
	11.30AM	KIKI	D. Sara Jordenö 94mins USA 15+ RP
	1.30PM	Microbe & Gasoline	D. Michel Gondry 104mins FRA M
	4.30PM	Emo the Musical	D. Neil Triffett 94mins AUS M SG RP
	6.45PM	Tickled	D. David Ferrier 92mins NZL MA15+ SG RP
	9.00PM	Killing Ground	D. Damien Power 88mins AUS MA15+ RP
14 JAN	BELLINGEN MEMORIAL HALL		
	11.30AM	Ella	D. Douglas Watkin 86mins AUS G RP
	1.30PM	Emo the Musical	D. Neil Triffett 94mins AUS M SG
	4.00PM	Tickled	D. David Ferrier 92mins NZL MA15+ SG
	6.30PM	Chevalier	D. Athina Rachel Tsangari 99mins GRC MA15+ RP
	8.30PM	Men & Chicken	D. Anders Thomas Jensen 100mins DNK 15+ RP

15 JAN	RELLINGEN	I MEMORIAL HALL	
TJ JAN			D. Voith Moitland OCmina USA 15
	11.30AM	Tower	D. Keith Maitland 96mins USA 15+
	2.00PM	Like Crazy	D. Paolo Virzi 118mins ITA 15+
	4.30PM	Microbe & Gasoline	D. Michel Gondry 104mins FRA M
	6.45PM	Trespass Against Us	D. Adam Smith 94mins GBR MA15+
15 JAN	BIRCH, CARROLL & COYLE		
	6.15PM for 6.45PM	One More Time With Feeling - Gala Screening	D. Andrew Dominik 112mins AUS M RP
18 JAN	BELLINGEN	I MEMORIAL HALL	
	11.30am	KIKI	D. Sara Jordenö 94mins USA 15+
	2.00PM	Baxter and Me	D. Gillian Leahy 83mins AUS 15+ SG
	4.30PM	The Death and Life of Otto Bloom	D. Cris Jones 84mins AUS 15+
	6.30PM	Hell or High Water	D. David Mackenzie 102mins USA MA15+
19 JAN	JETTY MEN	IORIAL THEATRE	
	11.00AM	Access All Areas	
	2.00PM	Girl Asleep	D. Rosemary Myers 77mins AUS M
	4.30PM	Baxter and Me	D. Gillian Leahy 83mins AUS 15+
	6.45PM	Chevalier	D. Athina Rachel Tsangari 99mins GRC MA15+
	8.30PM	The Autopsy of Jane Doe	D. André Øvredal 99mins USA 18+ RP
20 JAN	JETTY MEN	IORIAL THEATRE	
	11.30AM	Lovesong	D. So Yong Kim 86mins USA 15+
	2.00PM	A War	D. Tobias Lindholm 116mins DNK M
	4.30PM	The Queen of Ireland	D. Conor Horgan 86mins IRL PG RP
	6.30PM	The Salesman	D. Asghar Farhadi 124mins IRN 15+
	8.45PM	Teenage Kicks	D. Craig Boreman 99mins AUS 18+

SCHEDULE

21 JAN	JETTY MEN	IORIAL THEATRE		
	11.30AM	A Flickering Truth	D. Pietra Brettkelly 91mins IRN NZL 15+ RP	
	2.00PM	Destination Arnold	D. Sascha Ettinger Epstein 70mins AUS 15+ SG	
	4.15PM	Hot Generation	D. Paul Witzig 75mins AUS G SG	
	6.30PM	Zach's Ceremony	D. Aaron Peterson 96mins AUS 15+ SG	
	8.30PM	Men & Chicken	D. Anders Thomas Jensen 100mins DNK 15+	
22 JAN	BELLINGEN	BELLINGEN MEMORIAL HALL		
	11.30AM	Destination Arnold	D. Sascha Ettinger Epstein 70mins AUS 15+ SG	
	2.00PM	The Silences	D. Margot Nash 73mins AUS M SG	
	4.30PM	Zach's Ceremony	D. Aaron Peterson 96mins AUS 15+ SG	
	6.45PM	The Salesman	D. Asghar Farhadi 124mins IRN 15+	
22 JAN	BIRCH, CARROLL & COYLE			
	6.15PM for 6.45PM	Toni Erdmann - Gala Screening	D. Maren Ade 162mins DEU M RP	
23 JAN	ELEMENT E	BAR		
	3.00PM	Industry Connect		
27 JAN	JETTY MEN	IORIAL THEATRE		
	11.30AM	The Silences	D. Margot Nash 73mins AUS M SG	
	2.00PM	Mahana	D. Lee Tamahori 102mins NZL M	
	4.30PM	Fire at Sea	D. Gianfranco Rosi 108mins ITA 15+ RP	
	6.30PM	The Death and Life of Otto Bloom	D. Cris Jones 84mins AUS 15+	
	8.30PM	The Room	D. Tommy Wiseau 99mins USA M	
28 JAN	JETTY MEN	IORIAL THEATRE		
	11.30AM	Ella	D. Douglas Watkin 86mins AUS G	
	2.00PM	A Monster With A Thousand Heads	D. Rodrigo Plá 75mins 15+ MEX RP	
	6PM FOR 7PM	League of Exotique Dancers - Closing Night	D. Rama Rau 90mins AUS 15+ RP	

DOCUMENTARY: VOICE & VISION

Whether connecting worlds or breaking the silence, documentaries have the power to inform, shock and inspire. Discover some of the best international, non-fiction stories from the powerful to the unprecedented and the downright peculiar.

LIFE, ANIMATED

THU 5 IAN | 11.30AM | IMT

D. Roger Ross Williams | 91mins | USA | PG

NSW Regional Premiere

Winner of the Directing Award at the Sundance Film Festival, Life, Animated is the inspirational story of Owen Suskind, a young man living with autism whose life is enriched by Disney animated films, and the unconditioned love from his family.



Not only does the film open its audience's eyes to the world of autism it also sheds new light on the almost Shakespearean qualities of films like The Lion King. Oscar winner Roger Ross Williams' heart-warming documentary is a powerful emotional experience and a unique insight into how art can shine a light in the darkest of places.

LO AND BEHOLD: REVERIES OF THE CONNECTED WORLD

THU 5 IAN | 4.30PM | IMT

D. Werner Herzog | 98mins | USA | M

"[The internet] is not a cloud. It is servers and routers, which can be very easy to control and very easy to destroy, give me a bazooka, and I'll do it." - director Werner Herzog.



Celebrated filmmaker Werner Herzog returns with an entertaining, characteristically idiosyncratic look at the connected world in ten chapters.

THE LAND OF THE ENLIGHTENED

FRI 6 IAN I 2 OOPM I IMT

D. Pieter-Jan De Pue | 87mins | AFG | 15+

A daringly original mix of documentary and fiction, The Land of the Enlightened was filmed in war-ravaged Afghanistan over the course of several years (at one point the Taliban attacked



the crew, nearly ending production altogether). Winner of the Special Jury Award for Best Cinematography (World Cinema Documentary) at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival.

ZERO DAYS

FRI 6 IAN | 4.15PM | IMT

D. Alex Gibney | 114mins | USA | M

The new documentary from Oscar winner Alex Gibney (Going Clear: Scientology, Enron: The Smartest Guys In The Room and the Prison of Belief) is an urgent and frightening exploration of cyberwarfare now. The central topic of Gibney's non-fiction thriller is the phenomenon of Stuxnet. a self-replicating computer virus.



Allegedly commissioned by American and Israeli intelligence agencies to sabotage Iran's nuclear program, the virus infected its target but also multiplied, spreading rapidly and uncontrollably across the glob. Zero Days is a chilling and eye-opening exposé of the new frontier of international surveillance, espionage, and warfare.

Screens with short film 'La Madre Buena'

NATIONAL BIRD: DRONE WARS

SAT 7 IAN L2 OOPM LIMT

D. Sonia Kennebeck | 92mins | USA | M

The chilling exposé of America's modern warfare program from Executive Producers Wim Wenders and Errol Morris, NATIONAL BIRD is the story of courageous whistle-blowers who break the silence around the secret U.S. drone war, a decision that will change their lives forever.



A LIFE OF ITS OWN

SUN 8 JAN | 4.30PM | BMH

D. Helen Kapolos | 81mins | AUS | PG SPECIAL GUEST - Lucy Haslam

A Life Of Its Own is based on Helen Kapalos's personal quest to discover some medical truths about the life-giving and enhancing properties of cannabis. Her journey began after years as a senior reporter on a major commercial network



and being moved by one young man's anguish at his shame of having to resort to medical marijuana to treat his terminal illness. His story - detailed here in full - attracted the attention of government and prompted Australians to bravely speak out. The reaction was unprecedented- Hot Docs

TOWER

THU 12 JAN | 2.00PM | JMT SUN 15 JAN | 11.30AM | BMH

D. Keith Maitland | 96mins | USA | 15+

NSW Regional Premiere

On August 1st, 1966, Charles Whitman rode the elevator to the top floor of the University of Texas Tower and opened fire for 96 minutes. When the gunshots were finally silenced, the

when the guisinots were many shericed, the toll included 16 dead, three dozen wounded, and a shaken nation left trying to understand. Dynamically combining archival footage with rotoscopic animation, Tower reveals the untold stories of the witnesses, heroes and survivors of America's first mass school shooting, a moment when the worst in one man brought out the best in so many others.



TICKLED

FRI 13 JAN | 6.45PM | JMT SAT 14 JAN | 4.00PM | BMH

D. David Farrier | 92mins | NZL | MA15+ SPECIAL GUEST - David Farrier NSW Regional Premiere

Executive produced by Stephen Fry, Tickled is a jaw-dropping documentary on the surprisingly sinister world of competitive endurance tickling.

A mystery that begins as a curiosity turns into a full-blown investigation as co-directors David Farrier and Dylan Reeve navigate an extraordinary series of twists and turns to uncover the revelations at the heart of this peculiar subculture.



THE QUEEN OF IRELAND

FRI 20 IAN I 4.30PM I IMT

D. Conor Horgan | 86mins | IRL | PG

NSW Regional Premiere

In 2015 Ireland became the first country in the world to choose, by popular vote, to allow same sex marriage. The subject of Conor Horgan's superb five years in the making documentary is Panti Bliss. (Rory O'Neill's alter-ego) and



Ireland's superstar drag queen, as she rises from 'giant cartoon woman' to one of the highest-profile activists in the LGBTQI community.

A poignant film considering Australia's current marriage equality debate.

A FLICKERING TRUTH

SAT 21 IAN | 11.30AM | IMT

D. Pietra Brettkelly | 91mins | IRN, NZL | 15+

NSW Regional Premiere

Directed by Pietra Brettkelly (Maori Boy Genius), A Flickering Truth explores not just Afghanistan's early cinema, but what happens to a nation's creative people when they are forbidden from expressing themselves. When the Taliban took



control of Kabul, the workers at the Afghan Film archives were forced to burn films or risk their lives to hide them. The regime disapproved of cinema, viewing it as Western decadence. New Zealander Brettkelly's affectionate tribute is an historical journey, a love letter to Afghanistan, its cinema and people.

FIRE AT SEA

FRI 27 JAN | 4.30PM | JMT

D. Gianfranco Rosi | 108mins | ITA | 15+

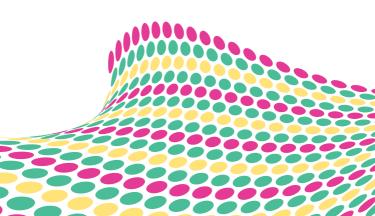
NSW Regional Premiere

Over the past 20 summers, the tiny Italian island of Lampedusa, south of Sicily, has become a destination for tens of thousands of refugees fleeing wars, violence, and drought in Africa. Renowned documentary filmmaker Gianfranco



Rosi spent months there as the European migrant crisis reached epidemic proportions in 2015, bearing witness to a humanitarian disaster that has resulted in the deaths of many hundreds attempting to cross the Mediterranean in leaky, overcrowded boats.

Winner of the Golden Bear for Best Film, the Amnesty International Film Prize and the Prize of the Ecumenical Jury at the Berlin Film Festival, master documentary maker, Gianfranco Rosi's Fire at Sea is an on-the-spot, humane and timely survey of Europe's refugee crisis. Essential viewing for all Australians.



Experience a New Wave of films dedicated to young voices, storytellers and changemakers. The revolution is here!

THE FITS

SAT 7 IAN I 11 30AM I IMT

D. Anna Roe Holmer | 71mins | USA | PG NSW Regional Premiere

Anna Rose Holmer makes her feature directing debut with this unique and unforgettable film about a tomboy assimilating to a tight-knit dance team in Cincinnati's West End. 11-year old newcomer, the dynamic Royalty Hightower, plays



Toni, an Ohio kid who falls in with the local dance group, eagerly absorbing their routines and master drills. Watching the girls defy gravity as they whirl into scary, seductive, hallucinatory patterns, The Fits becomes more than a transporting film experience. It's cinema poetry in motion.

GIRL ASLEEP

SUN 8 JAN | 11.30AM | BMH THU 19 JAN | 2.00PM | JMT

D. Rosemary Myers | 77mins | AUS | M

Winner of seven international awards including the Seattle Film Festival's Grand Jury Prize, The Age Critics' Prize and Australia's richest film prize, the CinefestOZ Award, Rosemary Myer's sparkling debut feature is a wonderfully eccentric and unquestiobaly unique, modern fairytale of female adolescence.



Screens with 2016 REC Ya Shorts Winner. "The Inventor".

KIKI

FRI 13 JAN | 11.30AM | JMT WED 18 JAN | 11.30AM | BMH

D. Sara Jordenö | 94mins | USA | 15+

NSW Regional Premiere

Winner of the Teddy Award for Best Documentary at the 2016 Berlinale, KIKI offers riveting and complex insight into the daily lives of a group of LGBTO youth of colour who comorise the 'Kiki'



scene-set to a fabulous soundtrack by Qween Beats. The 'Kiki' scene is highly competitive; you need to be dedicated, on form, and willing to practise endlessly. A dynamic story about agency, resilience and the transformative artform that is Voguing.

EMO: THE MUSICAL

FRI 13 JAN | 4.30PM | JMT SAT 14 JAN | 1.30PM | BMH

D. Neil Triffett | 94mins | AUS | M NSW Regional Premiere

SPECIAL GUEST - Lee Matthews

Based on his Berlinale 2013 award-winning short film, Neil Triffett's debut feature is a cheerfully irreverent take on Romeo and Juliet-style star-crossed love, via High School Musical and

Glee. What happens when a brooding, moody high-school emo falls for a happy, God-loving Christian believer? Clever, funny and always entertaining, Emo the Musical explores important themes of tolerance, individuality, and the power of song!

Screens with 2016 REC Ya Shorts Winner 'The School Rap'









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SCREENWAVE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

FIIA

SAT 14 JAN 11.30AM | BMH SAT 28 JAN | 11.30AM | JMT

D. Douglas Watkin | 86mins | AUS | G

NSW Regional Premiere

In October 2012, Ella Havelka became the first Indigenous dancer to be invited into The Australian Ballet in its 50 year history. It was an announcement that made news headlines

nationwide. A descendant of the Wiradjuri people, we follow Ella's inspirational journey from the regional town of Dubbo and onto the world stage of The Australian Ballet. Ella is a heartwarming picture of dedication, dancing and cultural awakening.

TEENAGE KICKS

FRI 20 IAN | 8 45PM | IMT

D. Craig Boreman | 99mins | AUS | 18+

NSW Regional Premiere

Race, religion and homoeroticism collide in Craig Boreham's coming-of-age queer surfer drama. Teenage Kicks is a journey through the minefield of adolescence as Miklos Varga, played by young up and comer Miles Szanto (Love My Way).



searches for a way to navigate through his guilt over his brother's death and his explosive sexuality to find the man he can be. Craig Boreham's debut feature offers a unique voice and exciting new addition to Australian queer cinema.

ZACH'S CEREMONY

SAT 21 JAN | 6.30PM | JMT SUN 22 JAN | 4.30PM | BMH

D. Aaron Peterson | 96mins | AUS | 15+ SPECIAL GUESTS - Aaron Peterson and Alec Doomadgee

Winner of the Sydney Audience Award for Best Documentary, Zach's Ceremony follows ten year old Zach Doomadgee as he navigates the



turbulant transition from boyhood to adulthood and the ever-present conflict between both the modern world and his ancient culture. Zach's Ceremony is the uplifting and compassionate coming-of-age feature documentary debut from filmmaker Aaron Petersen.

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CALL OF THE SURF

Catch some of the best surf flicks as they were meant to be seen, on the big screen. From high performance, to freesurfing pros, and icons of old timey ripping. Yeeeew!

VIFW FROM A BLUF MOON

FRI 6 IAN I 6.30PM I IMT

D. Blake Kueny | 75mins (with short) | AUS 115+

The first surf film shot in 4K follows the world's most dynamic surfer John John Florence and his closest friends from his home on the North Shore of Oahu to his favorite surfing destinations around the globe, including the South Pacific, Africa and Western Australia, Featuring some of



the best aerial surfing and tuberiding ever witnessed on screen.

Screens with short film, 'Simple Bliss'.

YOU AND MF

SAT 7 IAN | 4.30PM | IMT

D. Lorenzo DeCampos. Taylor Montemarano, Michael Lawrence | 87mins LAUSIPG

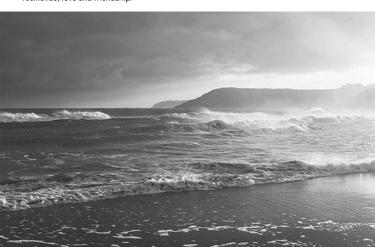
SPECIAL GUESTS - Barney & Kate Miller

Emerging professional surfer, Barney Miller,

doesn't remember the accident that rendered him a quadriplegic when a car he was a



passenger in skidded out from a bend on the way to the Nymboida River. As expected Miller enters a dark time in his life, but through the love and support of his family, friends (world surfing champion, Mick Fanning) and finding his soul mate, Kathryn 'Kate' Southwell, he takes on the impossible. You and Me is the inspirational true story about resilience. love and friendship.



CLUSTER

THU 12 IAN | 4.30PM | IMT

D. Kai Neville | 60mins + short | USA | 15+

Following the massive success of his previous films Modern Collective, Lost Atlas and Dear Suburbia, Aussie director Kai Neville's latest surf epic captures the outer most limits of pure fun. No fancy names, no commercial interest, no age-bracket, instead a film that's dedicated to the surfers in it. Featuring Craig Anderson, Noa Deane, Dane Reynolds, and Creed McTaggart, amongst

others- and tunes from Bowie to Australian Crawl- vou'll be singing aloud with your eyes glued to the raw action onscreen. Deadset.

Screens with short film, 'Within'

HOT GENERATION

SAT 21 IAN | 4.15PM | IMT

D. Paul Witzig | 75mins | AUS | G SPECIAL GUEST - Paul Witzig

The late 1960's and early 1970's was a hot bed of creativity for Australian surf culture. Change was imminent and surf was king. Board riders were tackling waves in new ways, while filmmakers like Paul Witzig and Alby Falzon were experimenting

with brilliant techniques for capturing the action on film. All aspects of the surfing life were changing along with the boards themselves. Witzig's Hot Generation captured the explosion of creativity and experimentation that was so much part of the counter culture and short board revolution. And along for the ride were giants of the surfing world, Bob McTavish, Nat Young, George Greenough, and many more - doing what they do best and having the time of their lives. Join us as we celebrate these kings of surf and the 50th anniversary of a quintessential Aussie classic.



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A PERFECT DAY

THU 5 JAN | 2.00PM | JMT

D. Fernando Leon de Aranoa | 106mins | FSP, USA | M

Academy Award winners Benicio Del Toro (Sicario) and Tim Robbins (The Shawshank Redemption) star in this darkly humorous comedy that exposes the absurdity of war. In an armed conflict zone a body has been thrown



into a well to contaminate and cut off the water supply to the local population, and circumstances soon turn the simple task of retrieving the body into an impossible mission. A group of aid workers cross the frenzied landscape like guinea pigs in a maze, and there might be no way out. A war inside another war, in which the only enemy is irrationality. Reminiscent of anti-war screen comedies such as M*A*S*H, A Perfect Day is an authentic, humanist take on the Bosnian conflict of sane people.

LIKE CRAZY

THU 5 JAN | 6.30PM | JMT SUN 15 JAN | 2.00PM | BMH

D. Paolo Virzi | 118mins | ITA | 15+

Steeped in saturated visuals that perfectly reflect the warmth of a Tuscan summer sun, Like Crazy is a bright and energetic 'dramedy' about two very different women who go on a road-trip of Thelma and Louise proportions. Both patients



of a progressive but secure psychiatric clinic, Beatrice is a motor-mouthed fantasist, Donatella, a tattooed introvert, the two form an unlikely friendship in the search of love and happiness in the open-air nuthouse - the world of sane people.

SUBURRA

THIL5 IAN | 8 45PM | IMT

D. Stefano Sollima | 129mins | ITA | 18+

From acclaimed director Stefano Sollima you as "Samurai" wants to turn Rome's waterfront into the Las Vegas of Italy, and everyone seems willing to co-operate: politicians, mob bosses and even the Vatican are all set to profit from this massive venture. But when one corrupt politician



makes a fatal mistake, it sends everyone involved in the project into a war fuelled by blackmail, revenge, betrayal and violence. An atmospheric, fast-paced throwback to gritty 1970's crime thrillers.

FRANCOFONIA

FRI 6 JAN | 11.30AM | JMT

D. Aleksandr Sokurov | 90mins | RUS, FRA

"What is France without the Louvre? Who would we be without museums?" - director Alexander Sokurov. In 1940, Nazi forces invaded Paris, intent on looting the city of its artistic treasures. Their destination, the Louvre. The setting of

Francofonia, an ambitious, freewheeling journey through European history from Alexander Sokurov, the director of Russian Ark (2002). Here Sokurov explores the relationship between art and power, and asks what art tells us about ourselves.



FRI 6 JAN | 8.30PM | JMT SUN 8 JAN | 6.30PM | BMH

D. Abe Forsythe | 94mins | AUS | MA15+

A black comedy set during the aftermath of the Cronulla riots, Down Under is the story of two carloads of hotheads from both sides of the fight destined to collide. Deliberately provocative and confronting racism head on, writer/director Abe Forsythe has created a daring film that will cause offence, laughter and reflection.



HELL OR HIGH WATER

SAT 7 JAN | 6.30PM | JMT WED 18 JAN | 6.30PM | BMH

D. David Mackenzie | 102mins | USA | MA15+

Working from a searing, always quotable screenplay by Sicario scribe Taylor Sheridan, British director David MacKenzie introduces us to outlaw brothers Toby (Chris Pine) and Tanner (Ben Foster) as they embark on a spree



of bank robberies, chased by racially insensitive Texas ranger Marcus (Jeff Bridges) and his Comanche-Mexican deputy Alberto (Gil Birmingham). Hell or High Water is a gripping action-thriller about family, crime and justice.

THE NEON DEMON

SAT 7 IAN | 8.45PM | IMT

D. Nicolas Winding Refn | 112mins | USA | R18+

The latest provocation from Nicolas Winding Refn (Drive) is his first film told from a female point of view. It centres on ravishing young Jesse (Elle Fanning), whose youth and vitality are devoured by a group of beauty-obsessed women who will use any means necessary to get what she has



TRESPASS AGAINST US

THU 12 JAN | 6.30PM | JMT SUN 15 JAN | 6.45PM | BMH

D. Adam Smith | 94mins | GBR | MA15+

As daring as it is heartfelt, music-video director Adam Smith's feature debut brings the life of an outsider community to the screen in all its texture and detail. Chad Cutler (Michael Fassbender) is part of a notorious clan of outlaws led by his criminal father (Brendan Gleeson).



Tension and family values collide as Chad tries to test the boundaries and break away from the outlaw life. Featuring a pulsating original score by The Chemical Brothers.

GREEN ROOM

THI 12 IAN | 8 30PM | IMT

D. Jeremy Saulnier | 95mins | USA | R18+

From Cannes FIPRESCI Award winning director of Blue Ruin, comes the nerve shredding thrill-ride genre piece, Green Room. A masterful flightfor-survival pic with a thick vein of dark humour. Starring the late Anton Yelchin and Patrick Stewart, as a diabolical, neo-Nazi club owner who squares off against down-on-their-luck punk



rockers The Ain't Rights, who agree to a last-minute gig in a backwoods Oregon roadhouse. Green Room is a breathlessly intense, visceral pressure-cooker of the highest order.

MICROBE & GASOLINE

FRI 13 JAN | 1.30PM | JMT SUN 15 IAN | 4.30PM | BMH

D. Michel Gondry | 104mins | FRA | M

From the imagination of Michael Gondry (Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind) comes a fresh, unpretentious and charming coming-of-age story about two likeable, 12 year old non-conformists, who embark on a summer adventure with their own homemade house on wheels. Featuring a memorable against-type performance by Audrey Tautou.



Screens with 2016 REC Ya Shorts Winner, '22 Ways To Die In Lego'.

KILLING GROUND

FRI 13 JAN | 9.00PM | JMT

D. Damien Power | 88mins | AUS | MA15+ NSW Regional Premiere

The gripping debut-feature from Aussie director, Damien Power, is a fabulously taut and tense, survival thriller that blends traditional bush gothic aesthetics with unnerving intensity. With electrifying performances from Aaron Glenane

Durit) and a menacingly against-type Aaron Pedersen (Goldstone), Killing Ground is a slick new Australian thriller and a welcome addition to the genre canon.



CHEVALIER

SAT 14 JAN | 6.30PM | BMH THU 19 JAN | 6.45PM | JMT

D. Athina Rachel Tsangari | 99mins | GRC | MA15+

NSW Regional Premiere

Winner of Best Film at the BFI London Film Festival, Chevalier is a hilarious satire of male competitiveness and bizarre antagonism set aboard a luxury yacht. Fully charged for maximum absurdity, a group of men duke it

out at sea for the title of 'the best' - a brilliant deconstruction of masculinity by female filmmaker. Athina Rachel Tsangari.



MEN & CHICKEN

SAT 14 JAN | 8.30PM | BMH SAT 21 JAN | 8.45PM | JMT

D. Anders Thomas Jensen | 100mins | DNK | 15+

NSW Regional Premiere

Upon learning that their recently deceased dad wasn't their biological father, socially awkward half-brothers Gabriel (The Girl with the Dragon

half-brothers Gabriel (The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo's David Dencik) and Elias (a delightfully against-type Mads Mikkelsen) go in search of their real shared parent, a scientist named Evelio Thanatos. They soon discover, in a derelict sanatorium, three other half-brothers each with a harelip and a penchant for madcap violence. A deliciously surreal, and absurd fantastical-farce.



THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

WED 18 JAN | 4.30PM | BMH FRI 27 JAN | 6.30PM | IMT

D. Cris Jones | 84mins | AUS | 15+

NSW Regional Premiere

Otto Bloom is experiencing his life in reverse, passing through time backwards while remembering the future. Is he a psychic, a time traveller, a madman or living proof of Einstein's theory of relativity? Featuring Rachel Ward (The Thorn Birds) as the present-day Ada Fitzgerald and her daughter Matilda Brown as her younger self, with Xavier Samuel (the Twilight series) wonderfully enigmatic as Otto Bloom, this ingenious chronicle is taking Australian drama to creatively mind-bending new heights.



THE AUTOPSY OF JANE DOE

THU 19 IAN | 8.30PM | IMT

D. André Øvredal | 99mins | USA | 18+

NSW Regional Premiere

Winner of both the Best Picture Award at Fantastic Fest and Best International Feature Award at Monster Fest. Father-and-son coroners (Brian Cox and Emile Hirsch) enter a world of terror while conducting a late-night autopsy on



a murdered young woman, in the highly anticipated English-language debut of Norwegian fearmonger André Øvredal (Troll Hunter). Hirsch and Cox bring an amusingly intimate familiarity to the father and son's idyllic but morbid livelihood. Grab the scalpel, turn on the tape recorder, and get ready to go deep into the inner cavities of a cadaver, where the mysteries are much more than skin deep.

THE SALESMAN

FRI 20 JAN | 6.30PM | JMT SUN 22 JAN | 6.45PM | BMH

D. Asghar Farhadi | 124mins | IRN | 15+

Winner of Best Screenplay and Best Actor at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival, The Salesman, is a powerful relationship drama with extraordinary performances. Blending contemporary domestic suspense with themes from Arthur Miller's literary classic, Death of a Salesman, the latest



drama from Academy Award-winning Iranian director Asghar Farhadi (A Separation), is a slow-burning masterpiece that will leave you breathless.

AWAR

FRI 20 JAN | 2.00PM | JMT

D. Tobias Lindholm | 116mins | DNK | M

With an Academy Award nomination for Best Foreign Language Film, A War finds writer/director Tobias Lindholm (A Hijacking) once again pondering good men under duress, this time intricately grappling with the question of what it means to be a good soldier. The film vibrates with haunting, documentary-like realism



 - Lindholm cast veteran soldiers in supporting roles, and even some real Taliban! Refusing to settle for easy answers, it digs into the moral implications of combat in a way few films manage.

MAHANA

SAT 27 IAN | 2.00PM | IMT

D. Lee Tamahori | 102mins | NZL | M

Once Were Warriors director Lee Tamahori returns to New Zealand after 20 years to direct this emotive and picturesque family drama based on a novel by Witi Ihimaera, the author of Whale Rider. Seen through the eyes of a Maori teen on the brink of manhood, Mahana explores the telling of a young man who dares to stand up to

both his domineering grandfather (Temuera Morrison) and The Man at a time when equality and respect were in short supply.

A MONSTER WITH A THOUSAND HEADS

SAT 28 JAN | 2.00PM | JMT

D. Rodrigo Plá | 75mins | MEX | 15+

NSW Regional Premiere

Pushed to her limit, a woman goes up against a faceless and corrupt bureaucracy to save her husband's life in this clever and frenetic Mexican



thriller. Mexican-based Uruguayan director Rodrigo Plá infuses the drama with dark irony, humour and expertly modulated tension to create a searing indictment of corporate culture in the health industry. At its heart is a compelling performance by theatre actress Jana Raluy as a woman with nothing to lose.

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DAVID FARRIERTICKLED DIRECTOR

SWIFF chats with David Farrier, festival guest and director of the weird and wonderful doco Tickled

TICKLED | D. David Farrier | 92mins | NZL | MA15+

FRI 13 JAN | 6.30PM | JMT SAT 14 JAN | 4.15PM | BMH

You've uncovered the dark heart of the international competitive endurance tickling industry. How does that make you feel?



DF: It's strange, really. I wonder if when I die that is the only thing people will associate me with. "Oh, that was the guy who did that tickling documentary". I am fine with that. I can't talk for Dylan and the rest of the team, but I feel okay with it.

TICKLED has played at festivals around the world. Was there a screening that was particularly memorable?

DF: I think for us it would have to be a screening in LA, where pretty much everyone from the world of Competitive Endurance Tickling showed up. They aren't very happy about the film. There was yelling. Earlier in the year a woman served me with two lawsuits. That was pretty weird I guess.

As a documentarian and journalist, do you have a particular method you follow when piecing together your stories?

DF: I mainly just talk to people, or poke at things on the internet. I like posting comments, seeing what I get back. As for piecing it together, it's an extension of that. I talk to as many people as possible. Even if someone seems dead boring, or frustrating, they might have that piece of information that gets you onto the really good bit the story. The bit you didn't even know existed. It's all about people and listening to them.

There's a thread in the film that takes the audience down the rabbit hole. Without giving away the story, what was your reaction when all the pieces started fitting together to form the bigger picture?

DF: Disbelief, in a way. Like - can this be real? Maybe it's not real. Maybe this is all a big trick.



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