Canberra International Film Festival

FOUNDATION SPONSOR

SINCE 1996

With degrees in media arts and production, graphic design, and writing, our graduates are equipped to work in all facets of the film industry from local short films to Hollywood blockbusters.

CANBERRA.EDU.AU

Welcome to the 18th Canberra International Film Festival.

In 2014, we will screen 65 brand new films representing 29 countries with over 120 screenings across 18 days. CIFF is the flagship film festival of the Australian capital, combining the best of contemporary, internationally acclaimed cinema, local productions, challenging, conversation provoking film and a unique program of discussions and forums to accompany them.

This year, in the centenary anniversary of WWI, we explore conflict, both external and internal, both global and personal, through our themes War, Hope and Denial.

We tackle issues of personal identity, belonging and connecting with the world through our themes Man, Woman and Child. And we dissect critical current issues, reflect on the past, and look to the future in Then, Now and Next.

Our films are accompanied by a series of conversations delving deeper into the complex and sometimes comical issues facing Australia and the world today. We have gathered an intelligent, witty and dynamic group of commentators from a broad range of specialist areas to give us their insights into the issues and ideas sparked by our cinema selection.

Our 18 day format will hopefully give you more opportunity than ever before to see these wonderful works from all over the world, and with all our films screening under the one roof at Dendy, Canberra Centre, it is just a short skip down the hall to get to everything you want to see.

I’d like to acknowledge the ACT Government for their continued support through artsACT and the ACT Event Fund; our founding partner the University of Canberra as well as our many cultural, corporate and community sponsors and supporters.

I hope you enjoy discovering this year’s sensational selection, and we look forward to seeing you in the cinema.
CIFF Members receive:
• Up to 50% off ticket prices
• A special Members’ Screening announcing the CIFF Audience Awards, and
• Invitations to four free screenings over the next 12 months.

**CIFF MEMBER PRICES**

Only CIFF 2014 Members can purchase tickets at CIFF Member prices including Six or Ten Pack tickets.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ticket Type</th>
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<td>Single Ticket</td>
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<td>Opening &amp; Closing Nights, including VIP Party</td>
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**NON MEMBER TICKET PRICES**

- Adult: $19
- Concessions: $14.50
- Matinee (11am weekdays): $14
- Opening and Closing Nights, including VIP Party: $40

*Adult and Concession Prices apply to regular Dendy Screenings

Membership forms are available at Dendy Cinema box office, or ciff.com.au

Check out our special membership promotions including meal deals at ciff.com.au

**Terms and Conditions**

1 Student rate only applicable upon the presentation of a valid Student/University ID card
- Members must provide a valid membership card to receive full program benefits.
- Membership cards are non-transferable and valid identification will be requested when purchasing or collecting tickets. • A member can purchase a maximum of one Six Pack or Ten Pack per year, and no more than one single ticket per session at the discounted member rate. • Tickets purchased at member prices are strictly non-transferable. • Access to special screenings are restricted to members only and venue capacity. • Canberra International Film Festival reserves the right to make changes to the membership program without notice, as deemed necessary. Privacy Act Full details are required for membership / personal information will not be passed on to third parties. CIFF ensures membership details are securely maintained. CIFF Membership subscribes you to an e-newsletter to advise you of free screenings and Member offers throughout the year. All information contained in this program was correct at time of printing.
Maps to the Stars

David Cronenberg takes on the Hollywood he has been side-stepping throughout his career in this spooky, satirical indictment of the fame game.

Julianne Moore serves a signature stunner of a performance as Havana Segrand, an insecure middle-aged Hollywood actress becoming increasingly desperate and ruthless in her schemes to land the lead role in a remake of a film her mother had starred in. Her therapist, Dr. Weiss (John Cusack) is a TV psychologist and self-help guru who makes a mint off celebrity clients and his megastar teenage son whose career is booming as much as his ego and drug problems. Into the mix walks Agatha (Canberra’s own, Mia Wasikowska), a recovering pyromaniac who Havana has hired as an assistant based on a Twitter recommendation from Carrie Fisher, and her friend Jerome (Robert Pattinson) a struggling actor getting by as a limo driver. It’s a vacuous world of celebrity self-indulgence into which Cronenberg lets rip with biting satire and social commentary, and then twists it all with some supernatural thrills and mystery. It’s a Kardhian’s worst nightmare: outrageous, witty, unapologetically smart and seriously unsettling.
THE DEAD LANDS

CENTREPIECE THU NOV 6 / 6:30PM
ENCORE SAT NOV 8 / 4:00PM

New Zealand / Maori [subtitled] / 2014 / 108min
Director: Toa Fraser
Cast: James Rolleston, Lawrence Makoare, Te Kohe Tuhaka, Xavier Horan

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

This adrenaline fuelled action epic set in pre-colonial New Zealand, is the first film to showcase Mau rakau, an ancient Maori martial art.

After his tribe is slaughtered, Hongi, the chieftan’s son, sets out to avenge his father and bring peace to their souls in the early Maori tradition of mana. To do so he must skill-up and is faced with entering the treacherous and forbidden “Dead Lands” to seek out a warrior master and learn the art of fighting. With his family’s killers hot on his trail, Hongi must find a swift and sure-footed path through dangerous territory. This unique cinematic achievement comes direct to CIFF from its Toronto International Film Festival premiere.

LOVE IS STRANGE

THU OCT 30 / 6:15PM

Australia / 2014 / 110min / Anthology
Directors: Evan Croker, Bruce Davie, Christian Doran, Luke Henrickson, Kris Kerehona, Daniel Lloyd, Marisa Martin, Adele Morey, Miguel Ortiz, Ben Wade, Megan Watson
Cast: Loraine Bayly, Aaron Jeffries, Les Hill, Damian De Montemas

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Eleven tales from eleven storytellers, linked by one gate, love is the key.

Locks of Love is an anthology of eleven short films, each exploring ideas of love, by eleven Canberra based filmmakers. The dynamics of love play out in their many facets and forms - the love of a child, love for a parent, and of course, romantic love - charting a course through comedy, drama and even the supernatural. Centred around Glebe Park, over 300 locals were involved in the making of the film and CIFF is delighted to present its first public screening as part of the festival.

CLOSING

SUN NOV 9 / 6:30PM

USA / English / 2014 / 94min
Director: Ira Sachs   Cast: John Lithgow, Alfred Molina, Marisa Tomei, David E Burrows

Uplifting with a slight sting in the laughter, this warm ensemble piece is a timely reminder of how far we’ve come and the prejudices we still need to put to rest.

With the introduction of same sex marriage legislation, Ben and George [Lithgow and Molina], after 40 years together, have finally been able to tie the knot. But immediately after, George is fired from his teaching post in a religious school, forcing the couple to live separately, dosing in with friends, while they search for a more affordable home. Their unplanned separation and new living arrangements bring both calamity and camaraderie to their respective hosts, and both comedy and pathos to this delicately handled tale of togetherness. A fantastic ensemble cast offers charming insights to all sides of this scenario and Sachs’ expert direction of his own script allows them all to shine in a memorable madcap for the modern family.
FREE MEMBERSHIP SCREENING INCLUDING AUDIENCE AWARDS

NIGHTCRAWLER

THU NOV 13 / 6:30PM
USA / English / 2014 / 117min
Director: Dan Gilroy
Cast: Jake Gyllenhaal, Rene Russo, Bill Paxton

Thanks to Madman Entertainment, CIFF members will be the first in Australia to see this highly anticipated upcoming release. This free screening for members (first in until booked out) will also host the announcement of the festival’s Foxtel Audience Choice Award.

Jake Gyllenhaal plays Lou Bloom, a drifter in need of money, any way he can get it. He stumbles across the Nightcrawlers of LA, who roam the streets at night, chase ambulances and descend upon car accidents to take photos and footage of crime scenes to sell to the evening news. Anything is fair game - robberies, assaults, suicides, and Bloom gets a feeling he might be good at it. That he is! Seemingly immune to the moral dilemmas of the job, he pursues the most shocking scenes he can find and quickly gains notoriety for an almost artistic flair for capturing calamity.

THE SALVATION

SAT OCT 25 / 6:30PM
WED NOV 5 / 6:30PM
Denmark / English / 2014 / 100min / Western
Director: Kristian Levring
Cast: Mads Mikkelsen, Eva Green, Jeffrey Dean Morgan

A Danish twist on the Wild West sees the start of a new, intensely personal, civil war.

Mads Mikkelsen stars as peaceful pioneer settler John, a Danish ex-soldier working hard to build a homestead in 1870s America. Yet after his family is brutally murdered by local outlaws, Jon takes the law into his own hands and in doing so must travel the brutally violent path of righteous vengeance. Breathtaking vistas see South Africa double for Monument Valley, creating a new take on the Danish Western coming direct to Canberra from its premiere in Cannes.

WE COME AS FRIENDS

SUN OCT 26 / 12:15PM
SAT NOV 1 / 4:00PM
France & Austria / English, Mandarin & Arabic [subtitled] / 2013 / 110min / Documentary
Director: Hubert Sauper

Australain Premiere

Oscar Nominee Hubert Sauper interprets the efforts to rebuild a nation whilst planting cracks of future fracture in its very foundation.

Aboard a rickety plane made of tin and canvas, the director of Darwin’s Nightmare takes us on a journey into the fractured locations, thoughts and hearts of the Sudan, Africa’s largest country, at a time when it is being divided in two. Cultural and commercial colonialism, the fight for sovereignty and battles over land and resources emerge. It is a complex reinvention that Sauper’s balanced, comical and inquisitive frame captures eloquently, with a surreal quality befitting the bewildering situation.

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Man’s best friend becomes his worst nightmare when war breaks out between humans and dogs.

Teenage Lili is sent to stay with her estranged father who is none too pleased about also inheriting Hagen, her dog, and eventually sets him on the streets. We follow Hagen as he tries to find his way home, making friends with fellow strays and evading the relentless dog-patrol and pound, only to be captured by worse – a proprietor of dog fights. Hagen is put through the brutal torture of being trained as a fighting dog, driving him past sanity and spurring him to lead his fellow dogs in a revolt against their oppressors.

A morality play of epic impact featuring the most stunning performances by dogs [yes, these dogs can really act!] you will ever see, White God screened in Un Certain Regard at Cannes this year, where it took out the top gong.

In an isolated hotel, hemmed in by snow, family tensions rise to a quiet, seething battle.

Winner of both the Palme d’Or and FIPRESCI awards at Cannes, Winter Sleep is the new film from Turkish master Nuri Bilge Ceylan [Once Upon a Time in Anatolia], inspired by several of Chekov’s short stories. Set in the Cappadocia region where homes are carved into the volcanic rock, Aydin runs a small hotel with his young wife Nihal and his recently-divorced sister Necla. The trio have a tendency toward tempestuous communications, and as winter arrives, the snow falls and the guests leave, resentments rise to the surface.

Despite its epic length, Winter Sleep remains riveting, ravishing to look at and an absorbing observation of the human condition.

A young American puts his money where his mouth is and his life on the line in this front-line view of the Arab spring.

After graduating from University, Matt Van Dyke took himself on what he called “a crash course in manhood” and set off solo to discover the world and himself. Three years later he would find himself fighting beside the people at the centre of the Libyan uprising to overthrow Gaddafi.

While Point and Shoot is a fascinating trip right to the rebellious heart of a revolution, it is also a touching coming of age story, a portrait of a privileged young man finding purpose, maturity and humility.

A war–time romantic–comedy, with an added dash of weighty reality to rival M*A*S*H and Hogan’s Heroes.

At 18 years–old Billy is drifting and dreaming through life, only to be interrupted by conscription to the Korean War. In the harsh life of military camp, Billy meets Percy, a womanising rabble-rouser and the pair become firm friends and once drafted, are lucky to find themselves instructors in a training camp where they can share the burden of an unbearable sergeant. On leave one day Billy finds and falls for an unattainable girl.

Celebrated director John Boorman revisits the family of characters from his 1987 film Hope and Glory with cheeky wit and generous heart.
The Ancients used to say that Jauja was a mythological land filled with abundance and happiness. All that is known is that everyone who tried to find that earthly paradise got lost along the way.

A remote military outpost in Patagonia, 1882, during a genocidal campaign against the aboriginal population. Acts of savagery abound on all sides. Captain Gunnar Dinesen [Viggo Mortensen in his first Danish speaking role] has come from Denmark with his fifteen year-old daughter to take an engineering job with the Argentine army. Being the only female in the area, Ingeborg creates quite a stir among the men. She falls in love with a young soldier, and one night they run away together. When he wakes up the Captain realises what has happened and decides to venture into enemy territory to find the young couple.
KUMIKO THE TREASURE HUNTER

SAT OCT 25 / 6:00PM
WED OCT 29 / 6:30PM
USA / Japanese & English [partly subtitled]
2014 / 104min / Drama
Director: David Zellner
Cast: Rinko Kikuchi, Nobuyuki Katsube, Kanako Higashi, David Zellner

Don't believe everything you see in the movies…

Inspired by unusual but actual events, Kumiko is a young and lonely Japanese woman living a solitary life, save her pet rabbit Bunzo, in Tokyo. A boring job, a demeaning boss and an overbearing mother add to her woes. When she discovers a VHS tape of the film Fargo, she becomes convinced that the bag of money, central to the film, is really still buried in the US Midwest. Determined to claim the spoils and reboot her life, she makes the journey to Minnesota.

Whimsical and moving, charming and clever, and propelled by a stunning performance by Rinko Kikuchi in the lead, the film speaks of obsession, fantasy and blind faith and their power to give us purpose.

BLOOD BROTHER

WED OCT 29 / 11:00AM
WED NOV 5 / 6:45PM
USA / English / 2013 / 92min / Documentary
Director: Steve Hoover

A young man moves to India to restart his life among the dispossessed.

You know you’re in for a powerful film when a filmmaker donates all of his proceeds to the children seen in the film and to HIV/AIDS initiatives. Blood Brother is an intimate portrait of Rocky Braat, a young man who longed to find a family and who finds meaning working with children at an AIDS hostel in India, a place of unspeakable hardship, where he would find almost more love and need than he could bear. Winner of the Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award [2013].

FANTAIL

THU OCT 30 / 6:30PM
SUN NOV 2 / 8:45PM
New Zealand / 2013 / 81min / Drama
Director: Curtis Vowell
Cast: Sophie Vowell, Stephen Lovatt, Jarod Rawiri

How quickly hope can turn to regret.

A moving, surprising drama wrapped in delightful deadpan comedy and a subtle critique of contemporary New Zealand culture. Tania [played by Sophie Vowell who also wrote the script] works the night shift at a petrol station, trying to protect her inept boss from the watchful eye of the regional manager, and herself from his romantic advances. She wants to save money to take her brother, Pi, to Surfers Paradise to find their father, but when Pi falls in with the wrong crowd, she faces the consequences of putting everyone else’s needs before her own.

LOVE MARRIAGE IN KABUL

SUN NOV 2 / 6:45PM
SAT NOV 8 / 12:15PM
Australia / English & Farsi / 2014 / 84min
Documentary
Director: Amin Palangi

When a woman’s hand in marriage is worth more than a year’s wages to her father, can a union based on true love triumph?

Afghani-Australian, Mahboba Rawi is based in Sydney but spends much of her time attending to the orphanage she founded in Kabul, along with dozens of other charity projects she coordinates. The first child she rescued is Abdul, now all grown-up, he’s fallen in love with Fatemeh who lives down the block. The pair want to marry, and send secret love messages to one another, but neither Abdul nor Mahboba can afford the price Fatemeh’s father has set for her dowry. Whilst on a trip to Afghanistan to decide which of her charities she must close, Mahboba is determined to barter a deal, whatever it takes, to see her Abdul and his darling Fatemeh marry for love, not commerce.
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CANBERRA’S CITY CENTRE
CITY • BRADDON • TURNER
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.INTHECITYCANBERRA.COM.AU

MERCHANDANTS OF DOUBT
MON NOV 3 / 6:45PM
SAT NOV 8 / 4:30PM
USA / English / 2014 / 96min / Documentary
Director: Robert Kenner
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE
“I’m not a scientist, but I play one on TV” – Marc Morano, frequently cited specialist on climate change.

Robert Kenner [Food Inc] investigates the shadowy world of professional skeptics, whose services are paid for by corporations and other special interests to cast doubt and delay action on climate change.

When a vast majority of legitimate science warns that we must take serious, immediate action on environmental issues, what drives the merchants of doubt? Is it simply money? Ideology? For kicks? Kenner profiles key climate skeptics, uncovering their credentials and motivations and shows how they navigate media and government to disseminate their disinformation.

HUMAN CAPITAL
SAT OCT 25 / 8:45PM
MON OCT 27 / 6:15PM
Italy / Italian [subtitled] / 2013 / 109min / Mystery
Director: Paulo Virzi
Cast: Fabrizio Bentivoglio, Matilde Gioli, Valeria Bruni Tedeschi

A stylish Italian whodunit reveals a searing criticism on class.

When a cyclist is knocked from the road and killed on Christmas Eve, two families are locked together in the twisting tale of how the accident occurred.

This delicious murder mystery is told from three distinct perspectives, adapted from Stephen Amidon’s American novel and transplanted in Milan, where it successfully transposes its observations of the super-rich and the social climbers who hang off them.
Fear and secrets lie beneath the neat façade of a quaint rural family. It's not all fresh air and country charm on this farm.

When Tom [much celebrated Wunderkind, writer, director and actor, Xavier Dolan] travels to rural Quebec for the funeral of his lover, Guillaume, he is ensnared by Guillaume's homophobic older brother who humiliates him in order to maintain the family's status quo and keep his brother's sexuality a secret. But there is something about the brother that intrigues Tom, a scent, the posture, the familiarity of his lost lover, which compels him to remain on the farm.

A psychological thriller that won the critics' prize [FIPRESCI] at the Venice International Film Festival in 2013.

A young doctor is determined to make it on his own, despite being posted to an internship at his father's hospital, but when he slips up, will he really refuse the favours of his father?

Benjamin thought he was meant to be a great doctor but his first experience in the hospital ward doesn't turn out the way he had hoped. Responsibility is overwhelming, and his fellow junior intern, a foreign doctor, is far more experienced than he is. This internship will force Benjamin to confront his limits and start his journey to adulthood.

Directed by Thomas Lilti who is himself both a doctor and a filmmaker, the film deftly tackles the responsibility of being a health worker and the dangers of an under-resourced health system with a knowing wit and great sympathy for its characters.

Where history has been unwritten, memorial can be confronting.

Kym leaves Sydney for a Balkan summer holiday, inspired by Nobel Prize-winning novelist Ivo Andric's The Bridge on the Drina to go to the eastern Bosnian town of Visegrad. She books into the Vilina Vlas spa hotel on the outskirts of town but her night there is an uneasy one, almost haunted. On returning to Australia she discovers that the seemingly idyllic town was home to brutal massacres during the Bosnian War, and that the hotel had served as a rape camp where civilians suffered unspeakable tortures. Determined to understand the fate of these women, Kym returns in the winter and finds the once-friendly face of the town masks denial, suspicion and darkness.

Remarkably, Abuse of Weakness is based on director Breillat's own experience of how she, herself, gave over one million dollars to a convicted conman.

Just who is taking advantage of who when a broken woman befriends a hardened man?

After suffering a stroke, a famous French film director Maud [Isabelle Huppert] finds herself physically dependent and socially isolated. She spots Vilko, a cocky convicted conman on TV, decides he must be in her next film, and pursues him with vigour. Their resulting relationship may be platonic, but Vilko offers Maud an intimacy others around her cannot, and he uses this connection to begin extracting money from her; her own complicity in this scenario, however, is entirely unclear.

Remarkably, Abuse of Weakness is based on director Breillat's own experience of how she, herself, gave over one million dollars to a convicted conman.
THE WORLD’S LARGEST EXPRESS NETWORK IS READY TO DELIVER

EDUCATION AT WHAT PRICE?
MON OCT 27 / 6.45PM
Following the screening of IVORY TOWER, join Cam Wilson – ANU Student Association President, Jacob White – ANU Student Association President and Professor Jeffrey Karp – Professor of Political Science [ANU] as they discuss the cost of higher education in the US, why student loans now outweigh credit card debt, and the future of Australian higher education costs.

FILMMAKING ON THE FLY
SUN OCT 26 / 6.30PM
Co-Director Lex Lindsay in conversation with the film’s Co-Director Amiel Courtin-Wilson about filmmaking on the fly and working with improvised scripts.

Followed by Conversations:

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DHL862 - Ad.indd   1
8/09/2014   2:21 pm
Time to get active. Designed for maximum versatility, functionality and driving fun, the all new BMW 2 Series Active Tourer is a vehicle that is ready for whatever you have in mind. Its dynamic yet compact design disguises an innovative and roomy interior that is home to an array of intelligent space-creating solutions and a generous luggage capacity. Undeniable proof that ingenious functionality and sporty aesthetics can be combined perfectly, the all new BMW 2 Series Active Tourer is unmistakably BMW. So leave boredom behind and make every second count, visit Rolfe Classic BMW to register your interest or to pre-order the all new BMW 2 Series Active Tourer today.

**STARRED UP**

**THU OCT 30 / 6:45PM**  
**FRI NOV 7 / 8:30PM**  
UK / English / 2013 / 105min / Drama  
Director: David Mackenzie  
Cast: Jack O’Connell, Ben Mendelsohn, David Ajala

Brutal prison culture can certainly sort the men from the boys, but when the men are only boys…?

Eric has been “starred-up” – prematurely transferred from juvenile to adult prison. Here he faces corrupt wardens, an over-enthusiastic anger management therapist, a kingpin with a grudge against him, and even his own father, who he has not seen in 15 years and is among his fellow inmates. With danger coming from every turn, the resourceful Eric must rely on his wits to survive this vicious new world.

This is an explosive, often quite violent, but tremendously honest drama from the director of Hallam Foe and Young Adam.

**TIME IS ILLMATIC**

**SAT OCT 25 / 4:00PM**  
**SUN NOV 2 / 6:30PM**  
USA / English / 2014 / 74min / Documentary  
Director: One9

The story behind hip-hop’s most pivotal album reveals great insights into African-American masculine culture.

The 90s album, *Illmatic*, remains the benchmark of hip-hop recordings and crowned its creator, Nas, as the unassailable king of the genre at just 17 years old. Witnessing peers succumb to drugs, prison and worse, this urban poet elegantly elucidated the transition from childhood to manhood in New York’s Queensbridge projects, paired with energising, revolutionary beats.

Multimedia artist One9 delivers an electrifying account of the genesis of *Illmatic*, utilising the Nas of both then and now.
**MY MISTRESS**  
**FRI NOV 7 / 6:30PM**  
**SAT NOV 8 / 8:30PM**  
Australia / English / 2013 / 90min / Drama  
Director: Stephen Lance  
Cast: Harrison Gilbertson, Emmanuelle Beart  

A young man’s fantasy becomes a dangerous education.

When teenager, Charlie, meets S&M mistress Maggie, the to-be-expected crush / lust / infatuation ensues. But when Maggie returns Charlie’s affections they begin an unconventional relationship that could turn painful in more ways than just the pleasurable kind.

Acclaimed French actress, Emmanuelle Beart stars in this provocative Australian love story by debut feature director, Stephen Lance.

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**JACKY IN THE KINGDOM OF WOMEN**  
**WED OCT 29 / 8:45PM**  
**THU NOV 6 / 6:15PM**  
France / French [subtitled] / 2013 / 87min / Comedy  
Director: Riad Sattouf  
Cast: Vincent Lacoste, Charlotte Gainsbourg  

The tables are turned in this slapstick satire in which women reign and men are the boobs.

Welcome to Bubunne, a fictitious matriarchal society in which women are soldiers and men are their property, forced to wear veils from earlobes to toes. Here, young Jacky fantasises about the Colonelle [played handsomely, as always, by Charlotte Gainsbourg], between looking after his mother’s needs, and trying to tame his rebellious uncle. When the reigning General announces her daughter, the Colonelle will take a husband, the country goes into a spin and Jacky must compete for his ticket to the Ball. This inverted Cinderella story takes sexism and fundamentalism to an absurd extreme to prove a pertinent point.

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**SONGS FOR ALEXIS**  
**SUN OCT 26 / 4:00PM**  
**SUN NOV 2 / 4:30PM**  
Denmark & USA / English / 2014 / 75min / Documentary  
Director: Elvira Lind  

A teenager ‘becoming a man’ poses many challenges, but in this case, it could mean losing his girlfriend.

18-year-old Ryan Cassata, long-haired, guitar-strumming musician, has become an overnight sensation after performing his songs on a TV show. He’s fast becoming a celebrity in the trans community as Ryan commenced his transition from female to male at the tender age of 14. He’s madly in love with his new girlfriend Alexis, but she’s just 16 and her parents disapprove of Ryan’s choices and are hell-bent on keeping them apart. In this inspiring story of love conquering hate, these teens tackle their setbacks with a poise and maturity many adults could emulate.

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**THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ELEANOR RIGBY: HIM**  
**MON OCT 27 / 6:30PM**  
**SAT NOV 8 / 4:15PM**  
USA / English / 2013 / 93mins / Drama  
Director: Ned Benson  
Cast: James McAvoy, Jessica Chastain  

What happens in a marriage breakdown is a story with two sides.

In an innovative idea for a more interactive cinema experience, The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby is the story of a couple trying to reclaim the life and love they once knew told from each of their perspectives. In HIM we follow Conor [James McAvoy] as he tries to reconnect with his wife Eleanor after the death of their baby, both start to wonder if the past is too far gone to be put back together. HER, the companion film, also screens in the festival – see them in which ever order you like…
WildBear Entertainment, one of Australia’s leading independent media production companies has been serving the Canberra business, Government and cultural communities for over 25 years as Bearcage.

Now having recently merged with Wild Fury to form WildBear Entertainment the company offers the same professional services from its offices in Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane.

**telling stories**

www.wildbear.tv

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**BLACK PANTHER WOMAN**

**SUN NOV 2 / 4:15PM**  
**TUE NOV 4 / 6:15PM**  
Australia / English / 2014 / 53min / Documentary  
Director: Rachel Perkins

A woman at the forefront of Australia’s Black protest movement recounts her extraordinary personal history and breaks a forty year silence.

In 1972, Marlene Cummins fell in love with the leader of the Australian Black Panther Party, beginning an education into the Black Power Movement. The little know Brisbane chapter of the Black Panthers was directly inspired by their American counterparts, they adapted their politics, their sexy black leather dress code and their defiant attitude, they staged educational theatre shows and were at the forefront of demonstrations including the Aboriginal Tent Embassy.

40 years later, Marlene travels to an international gathering of Black Panthers in New York. The journey takes her back in time, surfacing secrets of abuse suffered in the movement, and helps her confront those demons today.

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**SEPIDEH: REACHING FOR THE STARS**

**SAT OCT 25 / 6:15PM**  
**SUN NOV 2 / 4:00PM**  
Denmark, Iran & Germany / Farsi & English [partially subtitled] / 2013 / 88min / Documentary  
Director: Berit Madsen

An Iranian teenager has her heart in the heavens, but her feet remain tied to the laws of the land.

Sepideh is an eager amateur astronomer who yearns to become an astronaut but is only succeeding at becoming the subject of town gossip. Wrapped in her hijab she drags her giant telescope up in to the dark hills near her small town, sometimes alone, sometimes with young men. This is not the behaviour of a young Iranian woman. Her widowed mother struggles to pay their bills and a marital dowry for Sepideh’s hand could be the answer to all their problems, but once wed, Sepideh’s dreams will be permanently shelved.

Could Iran’s first female astronaut come to her rescue? An inspiring story of individuality and ambition.
WHEN ANIMALS DREAM
FRI OCT 31 / 6:00PM
SAT NOV 8 / 8:15PM
Denmark / Danish [subtitled] / 2014 / 84min
/ Supernatural drama
Director: Jonas Alexander Arnby
Cast: Lars Mikkelsen, Sonja Richter, Jakob Oftebro

The physical changes of puberty play out in unexpected extremes in this allegoric, supernatural coming-of-age mystery.

Sixteen-year-old Marie lives in a remote Danish fishing village with her father and wheelchair-bound mother, making her contribution by working in the unpleasant fish factory. Strange and mysterious deaths have begun to happen about the village, but something stranger is happening to Marie. As she approaches womanhood, a dark family secret is revealed.

VULVA 3.0
SUN OCT 26 / 2:00PM
WEN OCT 29 / 6:45PM
Germany / German & English [partially subtitled] / 2014 / 79min / Documentary
Directors: Claudia Richarz, Ulrike Zimmerman

We live in hypersexualised times.

All facets of the media are constantly putting naked women on display, but many women are still deeply prudish when it comes to their own body. In public we see airbrushed, de-individualised anatomies which conform to the standards of Barbie dolls and the porn industry. The ideal image of the smooth, perfectly shaped vulva with symmetrical labia has little to do with the actual shape of most female genitalia. The resultant insecurity many women feel about their own bodies has proven to be a gold-mine for cosmetic genital surgery which promises to manufacture the perfect vagina via the surgeon’s scalpel. A collection of well researched, utterly unflustered and very entertaining experts shed light on the social, political and personal complexities of women’s nether-regions.

APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR
SUN OCT 26 / 6:00PM
FRI NOV 7 / 8:45PM
USA / English / 2014 / 86min / Comedy
Director: Desiree Akhavan
Cast: Desiree Akhavan, Rebecca Henderson, Halley Feiffer, Scott Adsit.


Shirin is struggling to become an ideal Persian daughter, a politically correct bisexual and a hipster in Brooklyn. She’s not quite Persian enough, not quite gay enough, and not quite hip enough. She fails miserably in her attempt at all identities, and being without a cliché to hold onto makes for a lonely existence. After being dumped by her girlfriend Maxine, Shirin faces an unimaginable task: trading the idyllic lesbian haven of Park Slope for a shared artist’s loft in Bushwick. Unable to let go of the memories of their excruciating highs and lows, the endearingly superficial narcissist finds herself plotting to win back her ex.

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ELEANOR RIGBY: HER
TUE OCT 28 / 6:30PM
SAT NOV 8 / 6:15PM
USA / English / 2013 / 96mins / Drama
Director: Ned Benson
Cast: Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy

When the seemingly perfect couple loses a child, where does the woman go? And can she ever return?

Eleanor [Jessica Chastain] was madly in love with Conor [James McAvoy], but when they lose their infant child she feels isolated, alone and their marriage falters. The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby: Her is one of two films following this couple’s story, told from Eleanor’s perspective. HIM, the companion film, also screens in the festival – see them in whichever order you like...
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All sessions screen at Dendy, Canberra Centre, Level 2, North Quarter, Canberra Centre, Bunda St, Canberra.
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THE VULVA DIALOGUE
WED OCT 29 / 6.45PM
Following the screening of the documentary VULVA 3.0, join Drs Clare Holberton and Jenny Leung from Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT, Nurse Practitioner Lisa Clements from Companion House and gynaecologist Dr Bronwyn Devine for a discussion about taking back the language and dialogue about women’s sexuality.

CREATIVITY LOVES A DEADLINE
TUE OCT 28 / 6.45PM
Following the screening of DIOR AND I, join Corr Blimey Fashion Designer and Fashfest Producer Steve Wright and Fashfest Co-Producer Nick Ellis for a conversation around genius at the 11th hour and the creative process under time pressure.
ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL
SAT OCT 25 / 2:30PM
THU OCT 30 / 11:00AM
France / French, Swahili, Hindi, Arabic & Patagonian Welsh [subtitled] / 2013 / 75min / Documentary
Director: Pascal Plisson
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

In the four corners of the globe, children overcome extraordinary obstacles, fuelled by their yearning to learn.

Breathtakingly captured, On the Way to School charts the monumental journeys four children must undertake in order to attend school. Jackson in Kenya walks nine miles across a wild animal inhabited savannah; Zahira negotiates the steep passes of the Atlas Mountains; in India, Samuel’s brother pushes his makeshift wheelchair two and a half miles daily, and Carlito crosses the Patagonian plains on horseback for 11 miles, no matter the weather. A powerful, moving and humbling story of the human spirit and the determination of the young.

CHILDREN 404
SAT NOV 1 / 4:15PM
SUN NOV 9 / 4:15PM
Russia / Russian [subtitled] / 2014 / 70min / Documentary
Directors: Askold Kurov, Pavel Loparev
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

In Putin’s Russia, new “gay propaganda” laws hit children the hardest, breeding a culture of bigotry, violence and neglect.

When, in 2013, Putin signed into law a new bill that forbids “propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations to minors” he essentially criminalised all support services for gay and lesbian youngsters in Russia. Their parents, families, teachers and peers are forbidden to tell them they are healthy and normal, in fact, you won’t even find them on the internet, instead you will see Error 404. This brave and chilling documentary charts the work of young queer Russians to connect with each other and be the support network they have been forbidden.
### SONG FROM THE FOREST

**Sun Nov 2 / 2:30PM**  
**Thu Nov 6 / 11:00AM**  
Germany / English & Bayaka dialect [subtitled]  
/ 2013 / 96min / Documentary  
Director: Michael Obert

**A father and son make a journey from the jungle of central Africa to the jungle of New York, discovering new strengths and vulnerabilities in each other.**

As a young man, U.S.-born Louis Sarno heard a song on the radio that stayed with him. He followed those mysterious sounds back to the Central African rainforest, and found his music and life with the Bayaka pygmies, and never came back. 25 years later, Louis is a full member of this community of hunters and gatherers and has a son, 13-year-old Samedi, to whom he now fulfils a promise – to take him to the world from which his father came. They journey to New York City and stay with Louis’ best friend - indie filmmaker Jim Jarmusch, and soon discover, after their arrival, that Samedi, who has never left the rainforest, is instantly more comfortable in the urban landscape of New York than his father who cannot adjust to his return.

### THE FORT

**Sun Oct 26 / 4:30PM**  
**Tue Nov 4 / 11:00AM**  
India / Marathi [subtitled] / 2014 / 106min / Drama  
Director: Avinash Arun  
Cast: Amruta Subhash, Archit Deodhar, Parth Bhalerao, Gaurish Gawde

**The cliques of childhood friendship groups and pressures of popularity play out with an almost mythic quality in this beautiful meditation on the struggle to find one’s own place in the world.**

Chinu is having a hard time settling into his new home in the countryside where he and his mother have relocated following his father’s death. The move is supposed to help Chinu get over his loss but instead he feels more isolated. He is smart, so is picked on, he is from the city, so the local band of boys don’t want to know him. Only by helping their top-dog out of a pickle does he gain access to their clan. But is this really the friendship he is seeking? And what must he neglect to keep it? This powerful film deservedly won the Crystal Bear for Best Film in the Generations program at this year’s Berlin Film Festival.

### I AM BIG BIRD

**Sat Oct 25 / 12:15PM**  
**Sat Nov 1 / 2:00PM**  
USA / English / 2014 / 90min / Documentary  
Directors: Dave LaMattina, Chad N. Walker  
Cast: Caroll Spinney, Frank Oz, Jim Henson

**An intimate portrait of a life-long childhood.**

If you think you know all there is to know about Sesame Street, you don’t. I Am Big Bird is a feature-length documentary about Caroll Spinney, who has been Sesame Street’s Big Bird and Oscar the Grouch since 1969… and at 80 years old, he has no intention of stopping. Relying heavily on Caroll’s incredible archive of home videos dating back to the 1950s, the film captures how the love radiating from Caroll has created a worldwide cultural icon and answers why he can’t say goodbye to the characters he cherishes.

### AMAZONIA

**Sun Oct 26 / 2:30PM**  
**Sat Nov 8 / 2:30PM**  
Brazil & France / no dialogue / 2013 / 79min / Family  
Director: Thierry Ragobery  
Cast: monkeys, jaguars, spiders, anacondas, toucans, anteaters, a giant sloth

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**

Lost in the jungle, a lone baby monkey encounters a cast of strange creatures in this live-action 3D nature documentary.

A young capuchin monkey is unexpectedly released from captivity into the jungle and must fend off hunger, thirst and other hungry, larger animals, on a daring dash to reconnect with monkey-kind. Combining a nature documentary with an action-packed adventure tale and the cutest little protagonist on earth, Amazonia is a spectacular Family treat for young and old. Ragobert and his team utilise two years of research alongside biologists, ravishing 3D and micro-photography, and the breathtaking Amazon rainforest as a location, to create one-of-a-kind educational entertainment.
**COMING HOME**

SAT OCT 25 / 4:30PM
SUN NOV 2 / 12:15PM
China / Mandarin [subtitled] / 2014 / 109min / Drama
Director: Yimou Zhang
Cast: Li Gong, Daoming Chen, Tao Guo

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**

Having been denied a future together, a couple separated by political unrest try to recover their past.

Lu Yanshi and Feng Wanyu are a devoted couple forced to separate when Lu is arrested and sent to a labor camp as a political prisoner, just as his wife is injured in an accident. Released during the last days of the Cultural Revolution, he finally returns home only to find that his beloved wife has a mix of amnesia and dementia and remembers little of her past. Unable to recognize Lu, she patiently waits for her husband’s return. A stranger alone in the heart of his broken family, Lu Yanshi determines to resurrect their past together and reawaken his wife’s memory.

**THE CAPTIVE**

FRI OCT 24 / 6:30PM
SAT NOV 1 / 8:15PM
Canada / English / 2014 / 112min / Thriller
Director: Atom Egoyan
Cast: Ryan Reynolds, Scott Speedman, Rosario Dawson, Mireille Enos

Debuting in competition at Cannes, this psychological thriller stars Ryan Reynolds as the father of an abducted child who, eight years later, becomes convinced that she may still be alive.

Matthew and Tina Lane are an unassuming working class couple with an adorable nine year old daughter, Cass, who dreams of being a professional skater. One day, after practice, Matthew leaves Cass unattended in the car park. On return she is gone. Years later, despite an exhaustive police investigation the mystery of Cass’ disappearance has never been solved. And then, one day, Matthew begins to receive clues, almost riddles, indicating Cass, who would now be a teenager, is alive.

To thicken the plot, it seems Matthew and Tina have been under surveillance this whole time. But who is leaving these clues, and could it even be Cass herself?
HECTOR AND THE SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS

**SAT OCT 25 / 8:15PM**
**SUN NOV 2 / 6:15PM**
Germany & Canada / English / 2014 / 114min / Comedy
Director: Peter Chelsom
Cast: Simon Pegg, Toni Collette, Rosamund Pike, Stellan Skarsgård, Christopher Plummer

Simon Pegg undertakes an epic and uplifting quest to recapture the immediacy of youth and tie up some loose ends of the past.

Hector is a psychiatrist frustrated with his inability to provide real meaningful care for his patients. He realises, the source of this stasis, is of course his own lack of life experience, and promptly packs up his day-to-day and sets forth on a journey to discover what happiness really means. Along the way, through China, Africa and America, he crosses paths with a collection of enchanting cameo characters, each elucidating another chapter in the happiness riddle. Simon Pegg is at his quirky comic best, in this charming, mood-altering film, which mixes heart-stirring observations on struggle with its playful, whimsical quest for good times.

JIMI: ALL IS BY MY SIDE

**TUE NOV 4 / 6:30PM**
**SAT NOV 8 / 6:30PM**
UK & Ireland / English / 2013 / 118min / Biography
Director: John Ridley
Cast: André Benjamin [André 3000], Hayley Atwell, Imogen Poots.

Before he was a rock legend, Jimi Hendrix was a little known musician, pursued by two women.

In this unconventional biopic written by John Ridley, who won an Oscar for his script Twelve years a Slave, we look at Jimi Hendrix’s transition into stardom, his tumultuous and sometimes violent relationship with his girlfriend and how Keith Richard’s girlfriend set him up with a manager who would change his life.

Jimi is brilliantly portrayed by Outkast’s André 3000 in a film that sums up the spirit of the times perfectly along with glimpses at established stars like the Beatles and Eric Clapton.

LEAVE TO REMAIN

**SAT NOV 1 / 2:30PM**
**WED NOV 5 / 11:00AM**
UK / English and Farsi [partially subtitled] / 2013 / 89min / Drama
Director: Bruce Goodison
Cast: Toby Jones, Jake Davies, Alex Harvey, Zarrineh Massieh, Noof Oussellam, Yasmin Mwanza

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

How far would you go to escape your past?

Omar, a charismatic Afghan teenager, is at the precarious juncture of having his refugee status decided, when the arrival of a boy from back home threatens to change everything. Forced into a position where the outcome may be the difference between life and death, his only options are to tell the unbelievable truth or to tell a good story? Based on real-life accounts, Leave to Remain is a coming of age drama with a firm social message at its heart. The film features an ensemble cast of genuine refugees alongside acclaimed actor Toby Jones and a soundtrack by Mercury Music Prize winning outfit Alt-J.

PARTICLE FEVER

**SAT OCT 25 / 2:00PM**
**SAT NOV 1 / 4:30PM**
USA / English / 2013 / 99min / Science Documentary
Director: Mark Levinson

Tensions are high as the wheels are set in motion on a monumental experiment to discover where we all began.

The Large Hadron Collider is the biggest machine ever built, literally spanning miles and miles underneath the earth. Ten thousand people were involved in this ground-breaking project to recreate the conditions directly after the theoretical ‘Big Bang’ from whence our universe came. Many feared the ramifications of wilfully smashing together the smallest of sub-atomic units, but here we meet the key players in this, the greatest scientific breakthrough of the century, as they eagerly await that fateful moment of first flicking the switch.
WHAT MAKETH THE MAN?
Hosted by 666 ABC Canberra Breakfast Presenter Philip Clark.
THU OCT 30 / 6:45pm
Following the screening of STARRED UP, join Menslink CEO Martin Fisk, Menslink facilitator and trainer Mark Harbottle and Alexander Maconochie Centre Senior Manager Mark Bartlett for a discussion around young men in detention, the culture of violence in young men, the role of rehabilitation and living with the consequences of one’s actions.

HER FATHER’S DAUGHTER?
SUN NOV 2 / 6:45PM
Following the screening of LOVE MARRIAGE IN KABUL, join the film’s Director Amin Palangi and Producer Pat Fiske in conversation with the face of ABC TV News in Canberra, award winning journalist Virginia Haussegger, who travelled to Afghanistan following the story as it unfolded.
Stories that stay with you

See a great Australian film at
Canberra International Film Festival

TWO DAYS, ONE NIGHT

FRI OCT 31 / 6.30PM
Belgium, France & Italy / French [subtitled] / 2014 / 95min / Drama
Directors: Jean-Pierre Dardenne, Luc Dardenne
Cast: Marion Cotillard, Olivier Gourmet, Catherine Salée, Fabrizio Rongione

A woman has just two days to protect her livelihood and maintain her dignity in this raw portrayal of working class struggle.

Sandra, powerfully portrayed by Oscar-winner Marion Cotillard [La Vie en Rose, The Dark Knight Rises, Rust and Bone], has 48 hours to convince her factory worker colleagues that altruism trumps personal gain, after their employer makes them choose between a bonus or Sandra’s return to the workplace. As Sandra visits each of her colleagues in an attempt to turn the tide against her, we gain insight into the struggles they each face and come to understand the difficulty of their decision. The winner of the Jury Award at Sydney Film Festival, Two Days, One Night is equally provocative and tender, an emotionally sensitive masterpiece, testament to the talents of two-time Palme d’Or winners, brothers Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne.

IVORY TOWER

MON OCT 27 / 6.45PM
SAT NOV 1 / 12.15PM
USA / English / 2014 / 97min / Documentary
Director: Andrew Rossi

Learn now and pay later…?

It’s a question as apt in Australia as the US, where Rossi focuses on the costs and value of higher education. Tertiary education prices have risen more than any other service in the US economy since 1978. While college graduates struggle to make ends meet, the combined student loan debt, nationwide, totals more than a trillion dollars, which, with an increasingly pinched job market appears unfathomable to pay off.

Moving from the hallowed halls of the Ivy League to the rising movement of “hackademic” start-ups in Silicon Valley, and doing the sums on the allocation of funds to admin and facilities versus class-time, this smartly packaged documentary offers a wide-ranging education on the state of the education system.
Magic and realism collide in this romantic thriller of lovers on the run and set on revenge.

Sovanna and Phirun, prostitute and a factory worker, run for their lives in a desperate bid to be together. Escaping the mean streets of Phnom Penh to the savage wilds of Cambodia’s jungles, love keeps them alive as they plot their revenge against unwitting enemies.

Winner of the Venice Film Festival Special Jury Prize, Ruin juxtaposes sumptuous cinematography with a sparse script, largely improvised, to reflect both soaring beauty and searing cruelty.

**RUIN**

**SUN OCT 26 / 6:30PM**
**TUE OCT 28 / 6:15PM**
Australia / English & Khmer [subtitled] / 2014 / 90min / Drama
Directors: Amiel Courtin-Wilson, Michael Cody
Cast: Sang Malen, Rous Mony

**DIOR AND I**

**TUE OCT 28 / 6:45PM**
**MON NOV 3 / 11:00AM**
France / English & French [subtitled] / 2013 / 90min / Documentary
Director: Frédéric Tcheng

Time is short and the stakes are high as the new kid on the block debuts for a fashion industry icon.

Raf Simons is a fresh young talent. After designing menswear for Jil Sander and his own eponymous label, it’s his time in the limelight. This documentary captures the creativity and chaos leading up to Simons’ debut collection for the House of Christian Dior. How will his minimalist style and ready-to-wear background fare in the haughty world of haute couture? Is it fraught? Is it naught? And how will he do it in just eight weeks?

A “fitting” successor to 2008’s Valentino: The Last Emperor, trials and triumphs accompany the journey from atelier to runway as director Frédéric Tcheng continues his love of documenting the fashion world.

**EASTERN BOYS**

**FRI OCT 24 / 8:45PM**
**MON NOV 3 / 6:15PM**
France / French [subtitled] / 2013 / 128min / Drama
Director: Robin Campillo
Cast: Olivier Rabourdin, Kirill Emelyanov, Daniil Vorobyov

A chance encounter leads an unwitting man into a trap in this, the Orizzonti Best Film winner at Venice.

They come from the war ravaged territories of Ukraine and Russia, and do what they must, desperate to get by. The Eastern Boys, who loiter in waiting around Paris’ Gare du Nord. Here, lonely and shy, middle-aged Daniel propositions a boy, Marek, and in doing so, invites a world of trouble into their lives. Soon other young men turn up at his door and he must defend himself from their increasingly menacing demands.

Told without judgment and with compassion for both sides of the divide, the film balances its taught tensions with a quieter love story and a genuine longing for change.

**CHINA’S 3 DREAMS**

**SAT NOV 1 / 6:00PM**
**THU NOV 6 / 6:45PM**
Australia / English & Mandarin [subtitled] / 2014 / 84min / Documentary
Director: Nick Torrens

Tradition vs. aspiration in China’s fast changing social fabric.

Nick Torrens’ latest film gives insight into the growing generation gap in Chinese society. Grandparents who grew up during the Cultural Revolution today encounter grandchildren striving for material gain, proponents of the saying “I’d rather cry in a BMW than laugh on a bicycle.” In a country with strict internet censorship, the teachings of these elders will be the youth’s only access-point to China’s troubled history. Twelve years in the making, Torrens’ work explores the past and its impact on the present, questioning where family and tradition fit in this new world order.

Followed by a Q&A with director Nick Torrens.
Celebrating the hard work behind creativity.

CLIMATE CHANGE, WHO ARE WE KIDDING? MON NOV 3 / 6:45PM
Hosted by 666 ABC Canberra Drive Presenter Adam Shirley.
Following the screening of MERCHANTS OF DOUBT, join Dr Will Grant, Graduate Studies Convenor at the ANU Centre for Public Awareness of Science, Prof Michael Raupach, Director of the ANU Climate Change Institute and David Pembroke, CEO and founder of The Content Group for a discussion of science and spin in the context of climate change.

DO YOU REALLY WANT TO LIVE FOREVER? TUE NOV 4 / 6:45PM
Following the screening of THE IMMORTALISTS, join the former Director of Population Ageing and Research, Office for an Ageing Australia, Kevin Vassarotti, Acting Director of the Centre for Ageing and Pastoral Studies (CSU) Rev’d Dr Jane Foulcher and Australian Association of Gerontology (ACT) President, Dr Chris Hatherly as they talk about the fight against ageing and death and the philosophical and socio-enviro-political implications of living so long.
THE IMMORTALISTS

TUE NOV 4 / 6:45PM
SUN NOV 9 / 12:15PM
USA / English / 2014 / 78min / Science documentary
Directors: David Alvarado, Jason Sussberg

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Two eccentric scientists race to cure ageing... or die trying.

Bill Andrews is a lab biologist and passionate long-distance runner, racing against the ultimate clock. Aubrey de Grey is a genius theoretical biologist who likes to conduct his research with a beer in hand. They differ in their style and substance but are united in a common crusade... the end of ageing. They publicly take on the nay-sayers and scientific elite who claim medically assisted immortality is neither possible nor ethically desirable, but as the clock ticks and they grow older and suffer the losses of loved ones, their mission becomes all the more personal and urgent.

AFTERLIFE

MON OCT 27 / 8:45PM
WED NOV 5 / 6:15PM
Hungary / Hungarian [subtitled] / 2014 / 95min / Comedy
Director: Virág Zomborácz
Cast: Márton Kristóf, Eszter Csákányi, József Gyabronka

A troubled father and son are both dead, one literally, one figuratively, but perhaps now they can finally give each other what they need.

Mózes is a rather neurotic young man in his twenties who is unable to meet his pastor father’s expectations. When the pastor unexpectedly suffers a heart attack and dies, Mózes is almost relieved - the pressure on him has been lifted. But at the funeral he notices his father’s disoriented ghost which, although it cannot speak, follows him around, confused and searching. Mózes panics at first, then decides to complete his father’s unfinished tasks because according to the spiritualist car repair man this is the only way to get rid of a ghost. He is helped by his late father’s sassy polytoxicomaniac assistant in performing the pastor’s loose ends.
When you really need change, seek the help of professionals.

A group of misfits from an under-performing carpet shop have a chance to change their lives and better their positions. They find it in the advice of two marketing experts - an ex-kebab chef and an ex-fortune teller for a wildlife magazine. Naively, trustingly, they take on the advice of this pair of prophets and begin to make changes in both their business and personal lives. This delightful oddball comedy benefits from the loving light in which it casts its awkward, clumsy and lonely characters, allowing their fragility to be their comic strength and the film, rather than satire, to be a refreshing ode to the everyman.

The future of entertainment is all in our heads.

Robin Wright plays herself, an actress, ex-starlet, with limited opportunities as she grows older and younger women take the roles. Mirramount studios offers her a proposition, the last role she will ever play, to be scanned - physically and emotionally - into a database from which producers can computer-generate any future performance from her they might desire. Flash forward 20 years and the industry has changed, people now engage with entertainment in an hallucinogenic state in which they can generate any narrative they desire by plugging into the Mirramount database, which is where Robin must now go. But once she has entered, it will be harder than imagined to get out. This part live-action-part-animation new feature from the critically lauded Ari Folman [Waltz with Bashir] is equal parts moving and mind-bending.

You're only as good as your next novel...

Philip's star is on the rise and he's entered the New York literary scene on the strength of his debut novel. He's also a narcissistic, petulant, misanthrope who treats anybody he 'doesn't need' with self-indulgent disdain, including his long-suffering girlfriend. The mere mention of a bad review sends him into a spin of despair and he retreats to the isolated writing cabin of his literary mentor to finish his second novel and prove them all wrong. Jason Schwartzman is in his element in the outwardly unlikable lead bringing such spectacular, shameless gall to the role you can't help but adore him. Perry shoots with a grainy hipster-gram lens, adding to the endearing pretension of this impressive indie winner.

A pair of young-at-heart seniors tick-off the bucket list and get more than they bargained for in this bawdy road-trip comedy.

Feeling disenchanted with life after retirement, Mitch, a brassy former surgeon, convinces mild-mannered Colin, his ex-brother-in-law, to holiday with him in Iceland. The pair set off through Reykjavik ice bars, trendy spas, and adventurous restaurants in an attempt to reclaim their youth, but they quickly discover that you can't escape yourself, no matter how far you travel.
We cast a beady eye on films, music, arts and all things entertainment.

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YOUR BROTHER’S KEEPER

WED NOV 5 / 6:45PM

Following the screening of Blood Brother, join GP Dr Tuck-Meng Soo, Aids Action Council staffer Marcus Bogie and Emma Macdonald from the charity Send Hope Not Flowers for a discussion about volunteerism, compassion and the journey to ending HIV.

THE DEAD LANDS Q&A

THU NOV 6 / 6:30PM

Following the screening of The Dead Lands, join Producer Matthew Metcalfe in conversation with Artistic Director Lex Lindsay about the making of the film in Maori language in New Zealand.
IN ORDER OF DISAPPEARANCE

FRI OCT 24 / 8:00PM
Norway, Sweden & Denmark / Norwegian, Swedish, Serbian & English / 2013 / 116min / Thriller
Director: Hans Petter Moland
Cast: Stellan Skarsgård, Pål Sverre Hagen, Bruno Ganz

“There hasn’t been this much blood spilled in a frigid, snowbound landscape – especially with this much droll, dark humor – since the Coen Brothers fed a hapless Steve Buscemi into a wood chipper in Fargo.” – Hollywood Reporter

Stellan Skarsgård plays Nils, a peaceful, mild-mannered snow-plougher who’s just been made local Citizen of the Year, but when his son is murdered by drug barons, well, this is one model citizen you don’t want to cross! Nils proceeds on a very long, tireless, extremely bloody and often very funny killing spree, slowly up the crime world ladder until he reaches the top and takes out the boss, ultimately responsible for his son’s death.

WHY DON’T YOU GO PLAY IN HELL?

FRI OCT 24 / 10:00PM
Japan / Japanese [subtitled] / 2013 / 129min / Action
Director: Sion Sono
Cast: Jun Kunimura, Fumi Nikaidô, Shin’ichi Tsutsumi

“Absolutely mad. It is every insane urge and image that Sono has had banging around in his head unused over his career distilled down and splashed on screen in all its absurd, and frequently very bloody, glory.” – Twitch

Cult auteur, Sion Sono describes this brain-explosion as “an action film about the love of 35mm”. Somewhere, in the centre of this madness, there is a narrative thread and it has something to do with an aspiring film troupe who call themselves “The F**kBombers” who get mixed up with a yakuza boss who wants to make a movie with his daughter. And then there’s everything else… like everything… genre-hopping, animation, martial arts, sex, gore and slapstick, which ultimately mash-up to mean two things… lotsa laughs and lotsa blood.

A GIRL WALKS HOME ALONE AT NIGHT

FRI OCT 31 / 8:00PM
Iran / Persian [subtitled] / 2014 / 99min / Horror
Director: Ana Lily Amirpour
Cast: Sheila Vand, Arash Marandi, Marshall Manesh

“Middle Eastern feminist vampire romance is likely to remain an underpopulated cinematic subgenre, but at least it now has a luminous standard-bearer.” - Variety

In the Iranian ghost-town Bad City, a place that reeks of death and loneliness and where pimps, thugs and drug lords rule the streets, the townspeople are unaware they are being stalked by a lonesome female vampire. The first vampire film to come out of Iran delivers in spades, utilising grainy black and white, slick and understated visual effects and the cultural nuances of its setting to great effect in delivering the building tension and suspense central to the genre.

GOAL OF THE DEAD

FRI OCT 31 / 10:00PM
France / French / 2013 / 120min / Horror
Directors: Benjamin Rocher, Thierry Poiraud
Cast: Alban Lenoir, Charlie Bruneau, Tiphaine Daviot

“Why didn’t anyone think of this before? A movie that combines two of pop culture’s favourite things: football and zombies?” – Sci Fi Now

Everyone is up for a riot when the big-league Olympique de Paris take on a small-town club Caplongue on their own home turf, but a zombie apocalypse is maybe more than your average soccer fan expects from a game. You see, the star player for Caplongue has been on performance enhancing drugs of particularly dubious origins, thanks to his mad-scientist father, intent on his son seizing the game. The drugs’ side-effects are more than standard ‘roid-rage, and the player transforms into the running undead, passing the infection in contagious white puke. An hilarious premise, cracker script, spot-on special effects, laughter, gore and cringes galore – if you’re a fan of the world cup and love a good zombie flick…? Well, wait no more, we’ve got it, this is your perfect film.
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**HOUSEBOUND**

**FRI NOV 7 / 8:00PM**

New Zealand / English / 2014 / 109min / Horror

Director: Gerard Johnstone
Cast: Morgana O’Reilly, Rima Te Wiata

“Sometimes at the festival you walk into a room knowing nothing, sit down, and get your skull punched in by a movie that is calibrated perfectly ... Housebound is one of those movies.” – Hitfix

Kylie, a petty thief, returns to her childhood home when the court places her under house arrest. Being locked up in your parent’s house seems punishment enough, but when it is also a haunted house?! Kylie refuses to believe her mother’s tales of the ghouls that reside within these walls, but when the strange whispers and bumps in the night escalate to something much more blood thirsty, and with an ankle monitor to keep her from fleeing, Kylie will wish she hadn’t messed with the law.

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**THE GREEN INFERNO**

**FRI NOV 7 / 10:00PM**

USA & Chile / English / 2013 / 100min / Horror

Director: Eli Roth
Cast: Lorenza Izzo, Ariel Levy, Aaron Burns

“The film’s gore, which features numerous graphic disembowelments and unnecessary amputations, will certainly test viewers’ constitutions, but it’s here where Roth gleefully celebrates his influences, employing iconic practical effects gurus to make the blood and body parts as yucky and realistic as possible.” – The Wrap

From the director of Cabin Fever and Hostel comes a new level of stomach turning terror. Based on Italy’s 1988 film Cannibal Holocaust, which was widely banned around the world, this is Roth’s comedic homage to the movie that redefined “going too far” in his subversive spin we follow a group of international activists entering the Amazon bent on some casual aide work to boost their own egos, instead they stumble across a hungry tribe of gruesome man-eaters. When they’re hog-tied, caged and being marinaded by their captors, they soon realise, instead of delivering sustenance to the region, they have themselves become the food supply.
Ratings

The office of Film and Literature Classification ratings are included where films have been classified at the time of printing. All other films are classified R18+.

Disclaimer

All information contained in this program was correct at time of printing.