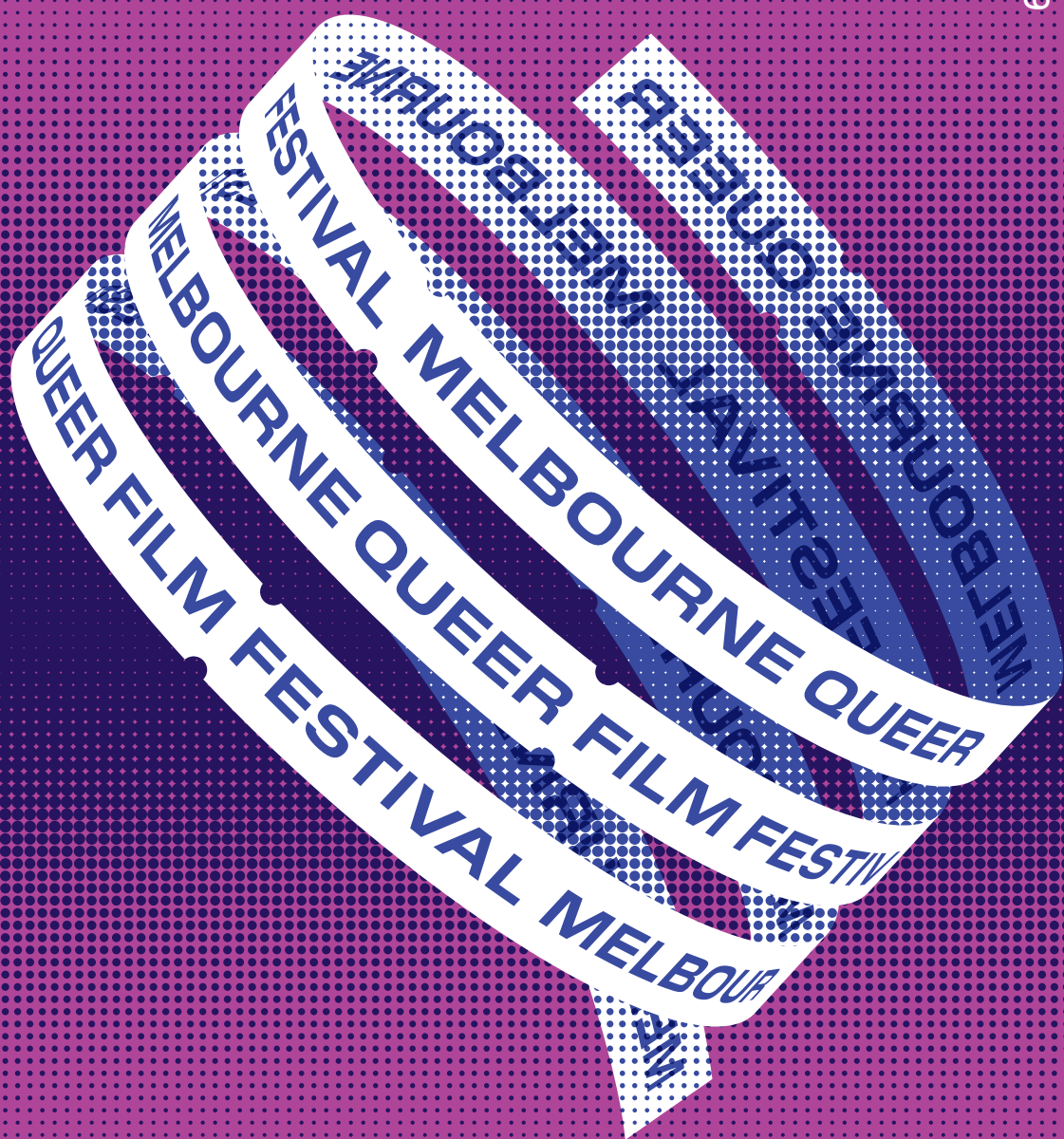


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#MQFF2019



**Melbourne Queer Film Festival**  
**14 – 25 March 2019**



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# Welcome to MQFF 2019



**Sally Capp**  
*Lord Mayor of Melbourne*

Australia's largest and longest-running queer film festival returns to Melbourne to celebrate its 29th year with a blockbuster program set to delight, surprise and challenge audiences.

In 2019 the artistic offering at Melbourne Queer Film Festival is set to grow with 20 more screenings than last year, increasing audience capacity by more than 3000.

Over 12 days, film fanatics can take their pick from some of the best queer cinema from across the country and around the world, including more than 120 feature films, short films and documentaries.

Here at the City of Melbourne we know that LGBTIQ representation in film is extremely important and that's why we're proud to support the Melbourne Queer Film Festival and our queer filmmaking community.

So peruse the program, grab the popcorn and get ready as we raise the curtain on one of our city's premier cultural events.

The stage is set for another bumper year; congratulations to the Melbourne Queer Film Festival team!



**Maxwell Gratton**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

The Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF) is Australia's oldest and largest LGBTIQ film festival and celebration of the moving image. It is also Melbourne's second largest film festival.

After a record-breaking Festival in 2018, in 2019 our 29th year, we present an even bigger and more diverse curated program at three venues, namely the Village Jam Factory, Cinema Nova and ACMI. This provides greater access and convenience right across Melbourne, with offerings in the

inner south (Village Jam Factory), in the inner north (Cinema Nova), and centrally at ACMI (Melbourne City).

Throughout the 2019 calendar year, in the lead up to 2020 which will be the MQFF's 30th year, the Festival will be strengthening our regional presence and our year-round offerings. These ambitions will enable the Festival to engage with more audiences, more often.

MQFF would not be possible without the guidance of the Board of Directors, led by Scott Herron and Cathy Anderson. A special thanks also goes to the MQFF's generous sponsors, partners, donors and Sweethearts, volunteers, MQFF Members, you the audience, and everyone and anyone who has contributed. It is all greatly appreciated.

I trust that you will have a great time experiencing what MQFF has to offer in 2019. I look forward to seeing you around.



**Spiro Economopoulos**  
*Program Director*

As we move closer to our 30th anniversary, the festival is finding itself at an exciting crossroad. The challenges for MQFF from the proliferation of streaming services and the mainstreaming of queer cinema, have yielded some rich and surprising results.

Queer filmmakers have turned to alternative avenues to tell their stories, as seen in our *Episodic Showcase* this year.

That in turn has resulted in more personal and individual works that speak specifically to the queer experience.

The appetite for queer stories and protagonists in the mainstream has also driven the money people to invest in more works that challenge, entertain and surprise.

So where does this leave MQFF? This year we are offering two filmmaking competitions, this is in addition to our regular awards and prizes. *Pitch, Pleez!* and *Keep the Vibe Alive* have allowed us the opportunity to dip our toes in driving the content rather than being mere facilitators and we love it! In total we are proud to be awarding and investing in filmmaking to the tune of \$50,000 in cash and prizes – an Australian record for queer film. So this is hopefully the beginning of bigger, better and queerer films for MQFF and you the audience.

# Partners

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## Opening Night

Full \$85/Con \$72/Member \$68

## Closing Night

Full \$38/Con \$32/Member \$30

## Centrepiece

Full \$30/Con \$26/Member \$24

## Single Tickets

Full \$21/Con \$18/Member or Groups (10+) \$17

## 2 Tickets

Full \$42/Con \$36/Member \$34

Booking fees range from \$2.50 to \$5, depending on booking total.

## All-In Pass

\$356 Member

## MQFF Membership

\$68 Full/\$58 Con/\$47 Under 30

## Passes

### 3 Film Pass

Full \$58/Con \$50/Member \$47

### 5 Film Pass

Full \$93/Con \$80/Member \$75

### 7 Film Pass

Full \$128/Con \$109/Member \$103

### 10 Film Pass

Full \$175/Con \$150/Member \$140

## How To Buy Tickets

### 1. Download the app

Browse and purchase tickets on the official MQFF iPhone or Android app.

No printing required - bring your smartphone to be scanned at the door.

### 2. Online at [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au)

### 3. At the Box Office

**14-25 March:** Open 10am - late. Located at ACMI Cinemas Ticket and Information Desk.

**Jam Factory and Cinema Nova:** Open 1 hour prior to the session start time to the start of the last session of the day at the venue.

## MQFF Membership

Membership is a great way to support queer cinema plus it offers a heap of year-round benefits including discounted tickets, priority access to cinemas and free member screenings. Visit [mqff.com.au/membership](http://mqff.com.au/membership) for more info.

## Admission Conditions

### Classification

The Classification Board grants MQFF special customs and censorship clearances that mean all audience members must be 18 years or over except where indicated.

### Concession Tickets

Full-time students, pensioners, unwaged and seniors.


### Refunds Policy

All purchases are non-refundable, except in some instances when a session is cancelled.



Exchanges can be made up to 2 hours before a session commences and incur fees (\$1.50 online / \$3 at the box office per ticket). Visit [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for full terms and conditions.

## Access

MQFF is committed to increasing accessibility across the festival. This year we are providing a number of open caption screenings. Look for the .

All MQFF venues are wheelchair accessible and have accessible toilets. All MQFF cinemas have assistive listening via an audio loop through the t-switch on a hearing aid, or audio headset.

MQFF supports and accepts the Companion Card. To book tickets using your Companion Card, to book a wheelchair space, or to advise us of your needs please call 03 9662 4147. Companion Card tickets and wheelchair spaces are currently unable to be booked online.

For more detailed access information and a full list of Open Caption and Subtitled screenings visit [mqff.com.au/access](http://mqff.com.au/access)

## Content Warnings

At MQFF we pride ourselves on showing the best and most innovative in contemporary queer cinema. Some of the films we screen are challenging - the queer experience has not always been easy for everyone. While we endeavour to include appropriate content warnings with each film description, we understand that you may have particular concerns about content. If you would like further information about the content of any film, and advice about whether it would be suitable for you or others, then please feel free to get in touch with us. We will happily provide information about such things as violence, drug use, homophobic language, suicide or anything else that you may find concerning.

Contact: **03 9662 4147** or [info@mqff.com.au](mailto:info@mqff.com.au)

# Opening Night

Come and celebrate the opening of the 29th Melbourne Queer Film Festival and join us after the film for our Opening Night Party at the Emerson, Commercial Rd , Sth Yarra.



## Papi Chulo

*'(a) sensitively acted charmer of a movie.'* – Screen Daily

**Session:** 19001

Thursday 14 March at 7.30pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Australian Premiere**

**Dir:** John Butler,

Ireland, 2018, 98 mins

**Courtesy:** Bankside Films

Matt Bomer stars as Shaun, an LA weather man who has a very public meltdown live on air. Asked to take forced leave, he finds himself roaming around LA where he comes across Mexican migrant worker Ernesto, whom he enlists to paint his deck. With little to no language in common the two men form an unlikely and at times awkward duo, as we learn that Shaun is still grieving the end of his relationship with Mexican boyfriend Carlos.

Director John Butler (*Handsome Devil*, MQFF 2016) has created a funny, tender and surprising comedy that brims with compassion and empathy, providing a much-needed antidote to the division and hate that is so prevalent in the current political landscape.

# Closing Night

Join us after the screening for closing night drinks, music and celebrations at ACMI lightwell.



## Jeremiah Terminator LeRoy

***'Kristen Stewart and Laura Dern power this dramatisation of literary fraud JT LeRoy' – Screen Daily***

**Session:** 19003

Sunday 24 March at 7.30pm

**ACMI**

**Australian Premiere**

**Dir:** Justin Kelly,

Canada, USA, UK, 2018, 108 mins

**Courtesy:** Fortitude International

Kristen Stewart is at her charismatic best in this wilder than fiction true account of the infamous literary scam that fooled Hollywood. Stewart plays the androgynous Savannah Knoop who spent six years pretending to be the celebrated male author JT LeRoy, the made-up literary persona of her sister-in-law Laura Albert, played here by Laura Dern at her prickly best. Featuring Courtney Love, Jim Sturgess and Diane Kruger and directed by Justin Kelly (*I Am Michael*, *King Cobra*, MQFF 2017), *Jeremiah Terminator LeRoy* is an intriguing and provocative tale on the slippery nature of celebrity, gender and sexuality.

# Centrepiece

Join us after the screening for drinks, music and celebrations at ACMI Lightwell.



## Bright Colors and Bold Patterns

*Winner Grand Jury Award for Outstanding Performance  
– Drew Droege, L.A. Outfest 2018*

**Session: 19002**

Thursday 21 March at 7.30pm

**ACMI**

**Dirs:** David Horn, Michael Urie,  
USA, 2018, 87 mins

**Courtesy:** BroadwayHD

This hilarious filmed version of comedian Drew Droege's one-man smash off-Broadway show takes the audience on a wild ride as we spend an evening with an outrageous house guest who has been invited to a gay wedding in Palm Springs. The invitation dissuades guests from wearing bright colours and bold patterns, which acts as a red rag to a bull for the progressively drunk and drugged-up Droege to proudly wave his flamboyant gay flag. Non-stop zingers aside, Droege's sharp script explores pertinent issues on internal biases within a community often celebrated for inclusivity and diversity.

**Star of Bright Colors and Bold Patterns Drew Droege will be in attendance to introduce the session.**

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# Rafiki

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*'A dynamic, smoothly-executed tale of impossible love'*  
– *Screen Daily*



**Session: 19701**

Friday 15 March at 7.00pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session: 19410**

Thursday 21 March at 8.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Wanuri Kahiu, Kenya, 2018, 83 mins **Courtesy:** MPM Film

**English & Swahili with English subtitles**

When teenage Kena spots free-spirited Ziki dancing on the streets of Nairobi, the euphoric rush of first love hits her right away. The two begin to flirt, and soon they're sneaking off for secret dates. The girls know they're taking a huge risk by being together in their deeply conservative community. To complicate matters further, their dads are running against each other in a local election.

*Rafiki* is a defiant and ultimately hopeful tale of first love, with blistering chemistry between the two leads. It has won countless awards and been a festival favourite all around the world, but remains banned in its home country of Kenya.







# Tucked

**Winner Grand Jury Award for Outstanding International Narrative Feature at L.A. Outfest 2018**

**Session:** 19205

Saturday 16 March at 7.30pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19708

Wednesday 20 March at 8.30pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Jamie Patterson, UK, 2018, 80 mins **Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

When veteran UK drag queen Jackie Collins (played poignantly by London film and stage veteran Derren Nesbitt) receives a fatal diagnosis with six weeks to live, all he wants to do is perform his long-running act, and behave as if all is normal. But between a surprising new friendship with a rising young queen and unfinished business with his estranged daughter, he may just have the most eventful month and a half of his life. This award-winning feel-good comedy sparkles with charm, humour and a sprinkle of good-natured shade.

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# L'Animale

***'A riveting central figure in a film whose exploration of queer identity and desire extends beyond the protagonist to her closeted father.'***  
– *The Hollywood Reporter*

**Session:** 19509

Friday 22 March at 8.30pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Dir:** Katharina Mückstein,

Austria, 2018, 97 mins

**Courtesy:** Films Boutique

**German with English subtitles**

Tomboy Mati loves to ride motorcross bikes and hang with her gang of boys. But when Mati meets Carla, her world becomes unstable. The encounter with the independent girl shows Mati who she could really be: alive and open, and very different from her competitive, demonstratively cool friends. To complicate things further, Mati's father is also grappling with his own confused sexual feelings, while her best friend Sebastian throws a spanner in the works when he confesses feelings for her. Director Katharina Mückstein has created an original, multi-award winning coming out drama anchored by a charismatic turn from rising star Sophie Stockinger.



## Eva and Candela

**Session:** 19201

Friday 15 March at 6.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19506

Monday 18 March at 8.45pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Ruth Caudeli, Columbia, 2018, 90 mins

**Courtesy:** Shoreline Entertainment

**Spanish with English subtitles**

This sensual and complex love story traces the love lives of two women, a director and her actress, as they traverse the rocky path of love, domesticity and infidelity.

Swinging back and forth between the past and present, we trace the developing love story of Eva and Candela as they first meet on a film set and find a creative kindred spirit in each other, which eventually blossoms into love. Over the course of years we see the women's relationship swing from giddy highs to painful truths as they try to find a way back to the passions they once shared creatively and personally. Brilliantly portrayed by the two female leads, this is a bittersweet and intimate look at the constantly evolving nature of love.

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## Anchor and Hope

**Session:** 19105

Saturday 16 March at 7.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19315

Sunday 24 March at 1.15pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Carlos Marques-Marcet, Spain, 2017, 113 mins

**Courtesy:** Visit Films

**English and Spanish with English subtitles**

Eva (Oona Chaplin) and Kat's (Natalia Tena) humble, yet carefree, lifestyle in their London canal boat gets turned upside down when Eva presents Kat with an ultimatum: she wants a child. Kat resists, knowing that it will end the bohemian lifestyle she's always envisaged with Eva. However when, Kat's best friend, Roger drops in from Barcelona to party with the ladies, the three of them begin to toy around with the idea of creating a baby.

Driven by three magnetic performances and a brief cameo by the great Geraldine Chaplin (Oona's real life mother), this winning and heartfelt comedy puts a fresh spin on the perilous journey to start a family.

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# Malila: The Farewell Flower

**Winner Outstanding Artistic Achievement L.A. Outfest 2018**

**Session:** 19117

Saturday 23 March at 5.00pm

**ACMI**

**Dir:** Anucha Boonyawatana,  
Thailand, 2017, 94 mins

**Courtesy:** Reel Suspects

**Thai with English subtitles**

**Some scenes may disturb**

Writer-director Anucha Boonyawatana crafts a gentle and explorative portrait of the fleeting nature of love and the inevitability of loss. Set in a lush tropical region of rural Thailand, the plot is driven by Shane, an alcoholic drowning in grief from losing his only child. As Shane stumbles into his formless future, he reconnects with his estranged lover, Pitch. What follows is a delicate, meditative study in embracing trauma, desire and spirituality. Steeped in lush, dreamlike visuals, Boonyawatana doesn't shy away from the visceral reality of death but equally embraces the sensual and carnal desires of the body and heart.

***'Thailand's official Oscar submission is a sensitive spiritual drama that unusually fuses gay romance with Buddhist healing.'***  
– *Variety*



# My Big Gay Italian Wedding

**Session:** 19202

Friday 15 March at 8.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19307

Tuesday 19 March at 8.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Alessandro Genovesi,  
Italy, 2018, 89 mins

**Courtesy:** Palace Films

**Italian with English subtitles**

Move over *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, the big gay Italian boys are gonna give you a run for your OTT money in Alessandro Genovesi's outrageously fun, award-winning rom-com. Baby-faced Antonio (Cristiano Caccamo) pops the question to his burly, bearded boyfriend Paolo (Salvatore Esposito) in their Berlin apartment just before Easter. So far, so cute, but things take an awkward turn when Antonio freaks out about bringing Paolo home to meet the conservative Catholic parents he hasn't come out to yet. Even as various hurdles are encountered, including an ex who can't let Antonio go and a clingy new flatmate who comes along for the ride, this is pure joy from the get go.





## The Marriage

**Session:** 19207

Sunday 17 March at 4.15pm

**ACMI**

**Dir:** Blerta Zeqiri,  
Kosovo, Albania, 2017, 97 mins

**Courtesy:** Wide

**Albanian with English subtitles**

Their wedding only weeks away, Anita and Bekim frantically prepare for the approaching happy day. On top of it all they are anxiously awaiting news about Anita's parents, declared missing since the 1999 Kosovo war. Into their already unsteady future walks Nol, an old musician friend of Bekim's. What Anita doesn't know is that the men were once lovers and Nol's agenda is to rekindle their love affair. Simmering tensions and passions boil to the surface and the fragile existence of these three people begins to unravel. This compelling, powerfully acted and compassionate drama will have you riveted right down to its final, unexpected moments.

**'An exceptionally well-performed, absorbing and empathetic first feature.'**  
– *Variety*



## Mario

**Session:** 19504

Sunday 17 March at 8.15pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19214

Friday 22 March at 6.00pm

**ACMI**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Marcel Giser,  
Switzerland, 2017, 118 mins

**Courtesy:** Films Boutique

**Swiss and German with English subtitles**

German soccer hopeful Leon has joined a Swiss football team as their star hopeful. He quickly catches the attention of team mate Mario and the two men develop an instant bond. The two friends move in together and not long it becomes apparent that there is more than friendship between them. As they struggle to keep their relationship a secret, these tensions begin to take their toll, personally and professionally. This thoughtful romantic drama unpacks the complex and damaging nature of homophobia in the sports arena and the costly price involved in rising to the top of your game while staying in the closet.

**'A heartfelt and human drama with the texture of truth and characters to care about.'** – *The Guardian*



## Carmen & Lola

**Session:** 19702

Friday 15 March at 9.00pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19316

Sunday 24 March at 3.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Arantxa Echevarria,

Spain, 2018, 105 mins

**Courtesy:** Latido Films

**Spanish with English subtitles**

In this touching and sensual Sapphic take on the star-crossed lovers story, two teenagers from the Spanish gypsy community, find themselves at odds with their people when they fall madly in love.

Carmen is engaged to be married, her life laid out for her by her elders. She works as a hairdresser, waiting it out until she can quit and become a housewife and mother. Lola is a feisty young woman who spends her days tagging graffiti and surfing the web for lesbian porn at the local internet café. When the two women lay eyes on each other an undeniable attraction sparks and they begin a dangerous flirtation that will pit them against their family and peers.

**'A spirited addition to the gay culture clash genre.'** – *Screen International*



## Kiss Me!

**Session:** 19102

Friday 15 March at 7.45pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19412

Saturday 23 March at 5.15pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Océanrosemarie & Cyprien Vial,

France, 86 mins

**Courtesy:** WTFilms

**French with English subtitles**

Unlucky and perhaps just unfocused in love, osteopath Marie-Rose (Océanrosemarie) is an outgoing party type with a litter of failed relationships in her wake. Not too bothered, her independent spirit gets a surprising shake-up when she spots shy photographer Cecile (Alice Pol) dancing nymph-like in the woods while out on her daily jog. Convinced she's found "the one", Marie-Rose sets out to woo her in any way she can.

French comedian, actor and chanteuse Océanrosemarie – AKA Océane Michel – sees her add writer/director to her already impressive CV with this frothy and delightful rom-com.

# Sauvage

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*'Raw, uncompromising and yet strangely romantic.'*  
- *Hollywood Reporter*





**Session:** 19206

Saturday 16 March at 9.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19607

Saturday 23 March at 8.30pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Camille Vidal-Naquet, France, 2018, 99 mins,

**Courtesy:** Pyramide Distribution **French with English subtitles**

**Contains Sexually Explicit Material**

Leo is a young gay sex worker who sleeps rough and often puts himself in dangerous situations with his male clients. The streets however offer him a freedom to explore his darkest impulses and to remain unaccountable to anyone. When he meets another sex worker, a straight Moroccan man, the pull of attraction, intimacy and commitment begin to chip away at his uncompromising lifestyle.

Starring the queer cinema poster boy of the moment Félix Maritaud (who features in four films playing at MQFF this year, *Enter*, *Knife+Heart* and *Boys*) *Sauvage* is an intoxicating and explicit ride that explores the limits and consequences of freedom.



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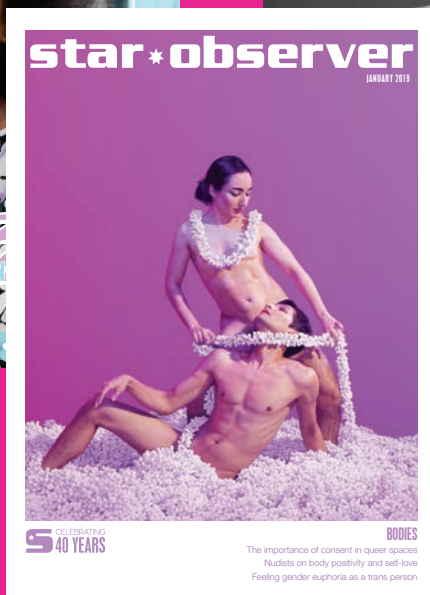
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## Canary

**Session:** 19601

Friday 15 March at 9.15pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19213

Tuesday 19 March at 8.15pm

**ACMI**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Christiaan Olwagen,

South Africa, 2018, 120 mins

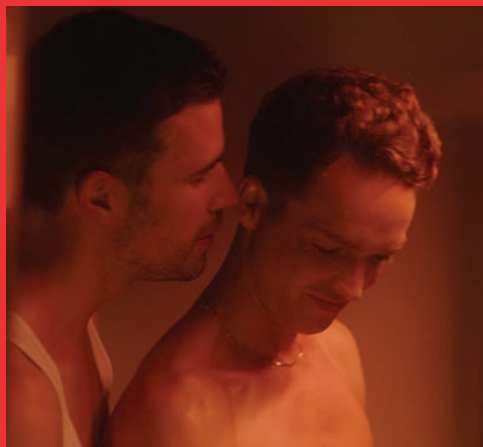
**Courtesy:** The Film Festival Doctor

**Afrikaans with English subtitles**

Set in 1985 against the backdrop of apartheid in South Africa and taking its musical cues (and fashion) from British New Wave music and *Culture Club*, this heartfelt drama follows Johan, a shy 'small town boy' who finds himself drafted into the military. In this harsh, macho environment he finds an oasis in the Defense Force Church Choir, the Canaries. Through this group of motley men he discovers camaraderie, the liberating freedom of music and eventually love, questioning everything he thought he knew about himself.

This rousing and moving film will have you reaching for your 80s playlist and dancing down the aisles.

***'This surprisingly fun musical examines the effects of nationalism on a tender soul, and the bond of brotherhood among misfits.'* – Indiewire**



## Sodom

**Session:** 19209

Sunday 17 March at 9.30pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19605

Friday 22 March at 9.15pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Australian Premiere**

**Dir:** Mark Wilshin, UK, 2017, 94 mins

**Courtesy:** TLA Releasing

20-year-old soccer player Will is on his buck's night when, handcuffed to a lamppost, he is rescued by the handsome and older Michael. The attraction between the two men is immediate and the two end up back at Michael's lavish apartment. Once there they find themselves drawn together further as they begin to explore their sexual limits and open up about their lives. Testing the boundaries of their one-night stand, they start to contemplate a future together.

Not unlike *The Pass* (MQFF 2017), *Sodom* is a gripping and intimate two hander that exposes the corrosive nature of internalised homophobia and the emotional price of the closet when you are a star athlete.





# Wild Nights With Emily

***'Wild Nights With Emily may be Olnek's most political film to date, one that could forever change the narrative of the world's most famous woman poet.'* - Indiewire**

**Session:** 19703

Saturday 16 March at 7.00pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19217

Saturday 23 March at 5.15pm

**ACMI**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Madeleine Olnek, USA, 2018, 84 mins **Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

Director Madeleine Olnek's (*The Foxy Merkins*, MQFF 2015) wonderfully droll and very contemporary period comedy *Wild Nights with Emily* finally gives poet Emily Dickinson the queer love story she deserves.

The ever wonderful Molly Shannon stars as Dickinson who if history had its way would be considered one of the most famous spinster poets, too timid to even publish her own work. This highly entertaining and sharply feminist film addresses this misconception and presents us with an Emily, brimming with passion, agency and love for her brother's wife Susan, the inspiration for her most romantic poems.



# The Blonde One

**Session:** 19603

Saturday 16 March at 9.00pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19219

Saturday 23 March at 9.15pm

**ACMI**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Marco Berger, Argentina 2019, 108 mins **Courtesy:** Matchbox Films

**Spanish with English subtitles**

Womanising Juan must quickly find a flatmate after his brother moves out. In moves Gabriel (the blonde of the title), Juan's stoic and very handsome co-worker, who is recently widowed and struggling to support his young daughter.

What starts off as a seemingly affable living arrangement soon turns to burgeoning attraction, then full-blown desire.

Director Marco Berger (*Plan B*, MQFF 2010, *Taekwondo*, MQFF 2016) has made a career out of observing the unspoken erotic nature of men's social interactions. With his latest, he explores new territory, delivering one of his most directly passionate and heartfelt films.





## Sunburn

**Session:** 1921⊙

Monday 18 March at 6.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 1971⊙

Saturday 23 March at 8.45pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Australian Premiere**

**Dir:** Vicente Alves do Ó,  
Portugal, 2018, 82 mins

**Courtesy:** The Open Reel

**Portuguese with English Subtitles**

Two couples, one gay, one straightish, dance and drink into the night. The next morning the debris of a late night party greets their weary, hungover heads. On top of it all, the mysterious David is coming to visit, sending our four protagonists into a spiral of self-doubt, nervous anticipation and recriminations. His charismatic presence hangs over this seductive and alluring chamber piece as these four friends reveal secrets, lies and their obsessive, undying love for David. Directed by Vicente Alves do Ó (*Al Berto* MQFF 2018), *Sunburn* is an intriguing adult drama about moving on from the past and the inability to do so.



## The Happy Prince

**Session:** 19706

Monday 18 March at 6.15pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 1922⊙

Sunday 24 March at 2.45pm

**ACMI**

**Dir:** Rupert Everett, UK,  
Germany, 2018, 105 mins

**Courtesy:** Vendetta Films

Forget Madonna's BFF, this is the role Rupert Everett was born to play. A lifelong ambition, he also wrote and directed this lustrous look at the by-then infamous Oscar Wilde's last days in Parisian exile. Nominated for a Teddy award at the Berlin International Film Festival, it's at once heart-breaking and divine. Though wracked by financial and social ruin, fallen so far from grace he has to beg for money while dodging debts, the great wit nevertheless retains his incorrigible humour right until the bitter end, when either he or the wallpaper must go. Also starring the ever-dashing Colin Firth as best friend Reggie Turner and Emily Watson as Wilde's unfortunate wife, this bittersweet and dreamy film is a glorious tribute to a grand man crushed by unkind times.

**'Director-actor Rupert Everett tackles Oscar Wilde in his later years, and proves this was the role he was born to play. Get ready to marvel at an award-calibre performance.'** – *Rolling Stone*



## Just Friends

**Session:** 19101

Friday 15 March at 6.00pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19606

Saturday 23 March at 6.30pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Dir:** Ellen Smit (Annemarie van de Mond),  
Netherlands, 2018, 87 mins

**Courtesy:** M-Appeal

**Dutch with English subtitles**

On the 10th anniversary of his dad's death, Joris still tries to come to terms with his father's absence, while grappling with his indifferent booze-addled mother. When he meets the free-spirited Yad, who is taking care of his feisty grandmother, there is an instant spark between them and a summer romance blooms. Of course not all is smooth sailing for the two young lovers.

This breezy, warm-hearted romantic comedy sails along on the charm of its two leads that make the rocky path to love (*Grease* cosplay included) a charming and fun watch.



## The Heiresses

**Session:** 19108

Sunday 17 March at 6.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19407

Wednesday 20 March at 6.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Marcelo Martinessi,  
Paraguay, 2018, 95 mins

**Courtesy:** Palace Films

**Spanish and Guarani with English subtitles**

This debut feature from Paraguayan writer/director Marcelo Martinessi stars remarkable newcomer Ana Brun as Chela, a socially-withdrawn upper class woman who finds herself adrift when domineering partner Chiquita (Margarita Irun) is sent to prison for fraud. As the maid sells off family treasures, Chela finds freedom in Chiquita's Mercedes. Becoming a cash-in-hand Uber for the neighbourhood ladies that lunch, she quickly opens up to a more independent life, as inspired by the raw sexual charisma of one of the ladies' feisty younger daughters (Ana Ivanova). Taking home both the FIPRESCI prize and the Silver Berlin Bear from last year's Berlinale, this emotionally intelligent treat also scooped the top prize at the Sydney Film Festival.

***'This is definitely the best film about an ageing Paraguayan lesbian couple you'll see this year. It's also one of the best films of any sort you'll see, a haunting story with a rich sense of character and place.'***

**– Times (UK)**

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## Knife+Heart

**Session:** 19106

Saturday 16 March at 9.30pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19216

Friday 22 March at 10.30pm

**ACMI**

**Dir:** Yann Gonzales, France, 2018, 100 mins

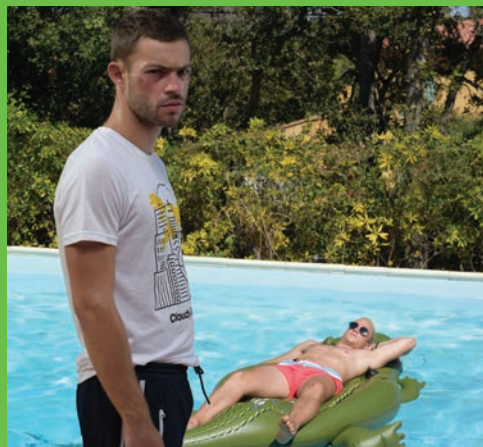
**Courtesy:** Kinology

**French with English subtitles**

Paris, 1979. Anne produces cheap gay porn, and when her lover, Lois, leaves her, she tries to win her back by making her most ambitious film yet. But when one of her actors is brutally murdered by a leather-masked serial killer with a dildo switchblade, Anne's journey to the dingy underworld has only just begun...

With lurid colours, an atmospheric synth score from M83 and a fantastic performance by Vanessa Paradis, *Knife+Heart* caused a sensation at the Cannes Film Festival where it was nominated for the Queer Palm. Get ready for a wild ride.

**'An unabashedly queer, affectionately comedic look at the pursuit of art in the unlikeliest of places.'** – *Variety*



## Boys

**Session:** 19501

Friday 15 March at 7.15pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19118

Saturday 23 March at 7.00pm

**ACMI**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Christophe Charrier,

France, 2018, 82 mins

**Courtesy:** Film and Picture

**French with English subtitles**

French writer/director Christophe Charrier's sophomore film offers up an intriguing puzzle box split between two timelines. Part teen-awakening, part erotically-charged thriller, it hangs on brilliant central performances from star Félix Maritaud (*BPM* MQFF 2018, *Sauvage* MQFF 2019, *Knife+Heart* MQFF 2019) and newcomer Nicolas Bauwens, both playing Jonas 20 years apart. Maritaud depicts a 30-something drifter troubled by a dark occurrence in his teenage years, drinking heavily and thrown out by his partner for one infidelity too many. Bauwens takes on the role as a more hopeful teenager, tentatively exploring the boundaries of his emerging sexuality with the aid of new kid Nathan (Tommy Lee Baïk) in a colourfully recreated 90s, Game Boy included. What went horribly wrong? And can a damaged older Jonas find solace in the arms of hunky hotel receptionist Leo (Ilian Bergala)? Charrier keeps you guessing right up until the jaw-dropping climax.



## 1985

**Session:** 19303

Saturday 16 March at 4.45pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Session:** 19507

Wednesday 20 March at 6.30pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Yen Tan, USA, 2018, 85 mins

**Courtesy:** Icon Film Distribution

The latest work from acclaimed filmmaker, Yen Tan (*Ciao*, MQFF 2009, *Pit Stop*, MQFF 2014) is an emotional and beautifully-observed requiem for a generation of gay men.

It's Christmas and New York lawyer Adrian returns to his Texan hometown for the first time in three years to reconnect with his conservative, religious parents, and young brother. Not out to his family, Adrian is burdened by the wave of tragedy brought on by HIV/AIDS he's witnessing first hand. Meeting up with an estranged school friend, Carly, brings Adrian closer to the reality of an uncertain future. With exquisite filmmaking restraint, Yen Tan pierces the heart with a profoundly affecting film.

*'A moving cinematic sketch... intelligent, surprising and emotionally resonant.'*

– *New York Times*

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## A Kid Like Jake

**Session:** 19406

Sunday 17 March at 2.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Silas Howard, USA,

2018, 92 mins

**Courtesy:** Madman Entertainment

**U15+**

Directed by trans filmmaker Silas Howard (*Transparent*), this star-studded drama sensitively explores what it might mean to raise a gender non-conforming child. Alex (Claire Danes) and Greg (Jim Parsons) are progressive, middle class New Yorkers and parents to five-year-old Jake, who loves playing dress up and acting out fairy tales. When the time comes to enrol Jake in school, Alex and Jim are encouraged by their friend Judy (Octavia Spencer) to use his 'gender expansive play' to help apply for scholarships. But they worry about prematurely labeling their child and do everything they can to protect him.

*'Deeply sympathetic, but also expansively humane and funny' – Vulture*

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## Mapplethorpe

**Session:** 19211

Monday 18 March at 8.30pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19604

Friday 22 March at 6.45pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Ondi Timoner, USA, 2018, 102 mins

**Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

The controversial gay photographer Robert Mapplethorpe brought to vivid life his innermost sexual fantasies, fetishes and desires, becoming in the process one of the most important artists of the 20th century. His legendary life and death has been documented many times before through documentary and countless biographies.

Director Ondi Timoner and star Matt Smith bring an unflinching honesty to their portrayal, unafraid to show the more unattractive and complex aspects of this great photographer's persona, while in the process documenting a vital and exciting time in New York City that gave rise to artists such as Mapplethorpe's once lover and creative partner, Patti Smith, who also features heavily in this fascinating portrait of a trailblazing artist.

**'Matt Smith brings the controversial photographer to vivid life'. – The Wrap**

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## Daddy Issues

**Session:** 19103

Friday 15 March at 9.45pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19115

Friday 22 March at 8.15pm

**ACMI**

**Australian Premiere**

**Dir:** Amara Cash, USA, 2018, 88 mins

**Courtesy:** U1RProductions

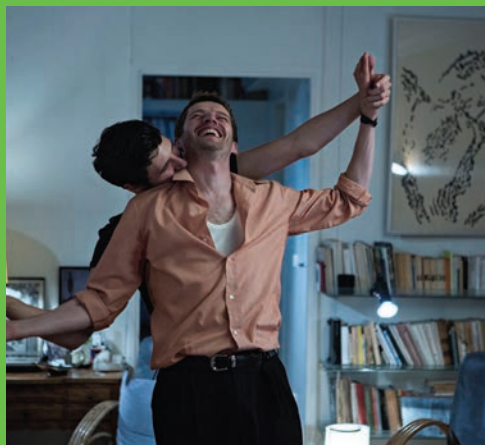
In this wild, candy-coloured and very bizarre love triangle, Mia, an aspiring queer artist, falls into the orbit of Jasmine, an alluring fashion designer, who is grappling with a very fraught relationship with a sugar daddy.

The two women connect artistically and romantically and the path is set for a very complicated courtship, which has a few hair-raising surprises up its sleeve.

This promising and highly original debut feature from Amara Cash is steered by the commanding performances from the central duo and Cash's keen eye for colourful visuals, playful costumes and arresting sets.

**'Giddy first love gets bizarrely complicated in Amara Cash's debut feature, a queer dramedy with a couple of kinky plot twists.'**  
– *Hollywood Reporter*





# Sorry Angel

**Session:** 19208

Sunday 17 March at 6.30pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19314

Saturday 23 March at 5.00pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Christophe Honoré

France, 2018, 132 mins

**Courtesy:** Palace Films

**French with English subtitles**

A companion piece of sorts to MQFF 2018 highlight *BPM*, French writer/director Christophe Honoré's heart-soaring *Sorry Angel* is similarly set in an inspirationally charged 90s Paris partially shadowed by the HIV/AIDS crisis. Nominated for both the Palme d'Or and the Queer Palm at last year's Cannes Film Festival, it tells with *joie de vivre* the story of untameable Jacques (Pierre Deladonchamps, *Stranger by the Lake*), a 30-something writer whose wandering eye nevertheless settles on 20-something student Arthur (Vincent Lacoste) during a country retreat. While Jacques is HIV-positive, and caring for his ailing partner, Honoré is much more interested in the "specificity of its characters — specifically drawn and superbly played," as *Los Angeles Times* critic Justin Chang notes. Revelling in art and literature and refusing to paper over life's natural cracks and ragged edges, this is a romantic adventure infused with a thoroughly French rebel heart.



# Night Comes On

**Session:** 19302

Saturday 16 March at 3.00pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Session:** 19111

Monday 18 March at 8.15pm

**ACMI**

**Dir:** Jordana Spiro, USA, 2018, 86 mins

**Courtesy:** Cercamon

Angel is a resourceful and streetwise teen, who is released from prison on the eve of her 18th birthday. Looking to make a fresh start, she plans to move in with her girlfriend. But first she must seek out her 10 year old sister and take care of some unfinished family business. What that business is gradually unfolds as we discover the lengths this young woman will go to in order to seek justice and revenge. This debut feature from actress Jordana Spiro is a powerful and riveting award-winning drama with a commanding performance from lead Dominique Fishback as a young woman reclaiming her past and learning to love again.



## Marilyn

**Official Selection Berlin International Film Festival 2018**

**Session:** 19707

Monday 18 March at 9.00pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19414

Sunday 24 March at 3.00pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Martín Rodríguez Redondo, Argentina, 2018, 80 mins

**Courtesy:** Film Factory

**Spanish with English subtitles**

**Contains Homophobic Violence**

Based on true events, this riveting coming out drama takes place in rural Argentina, as we follow Marco the young son of farmers who is expected to follow in the family business. Marco however has a knack for dressmaking and an eye for the handsome son of a neighbouring farmer. When his father passes away unexpectedly Marco is forced to make some difficult decisions as he comes head to head with family expectation and following his own desires.



## José

**Winner Queer Lion Venice Film Festival 2018**

**Session:** 19705

Sunday 17 March at 6.00pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Li Cheng, Guatemala, 2018, 85 mins

**Courtesy:** YQ Studio

**Spanish with English subtitles**

**Contains Sexually Explicit Material**

19-year-old José is a shy young man who when not working in a busy Guatemalan restaurant or tending to his demanding mother, frequently organises afternoon hotel hookups with men he finds online.

When he meets Louis, a migrant from the Caribbean Coast, a romance blossoms and José begins to imagine another life outside of his cloistered and conservative background. Adopting a naturalistic style and featuring impressive performances from the mostly non-professional actors, José is a gentle portrait of a young man on the brink of crisis, hope and change.

**'Sensitive portrait of being young and gay in an unaccommodating culture.'**

**– The Hollywood Reporter**



# I Miss You When I See You

**Session:** 19309

Wednesday 20 March at 8.45pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Simon Chung,

Hong Kong, 2018, 93 mins

**Courtesy:** M-Appeal

**Cantonese with English subtitles**

From veteran queer director Simon Chung (*Speechless*, MQFF2013), *I Miss You When I See You* is a tense and emotional relationship drama about an enduring but hidden love. Kevin and Jamie are childhood friends in Hong Kong, but just as they are about to grow closer, Kevin has to relocate to Australia. When they are reunited a decade later, Kevin quickly insinuates himself into Jamie's life. Secrets begin to simmer just beneath the surface as the two become reacquainted, and Jamie's comfortable life with his girlfriend is turned upside-down.

**'An affecting, stripped down look at the emotional toll a fleeting romance can leave' – Film Art**



# And Breathe Normally

**Winner Best Director Sundance Film Festival 2018**

**Session:** 19704

Saturday 16 March at 9.15pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Dir:** Ísöld Uggadóttir, Iceland, Sweden, Belgium, 2018, 95 mins

**Courtesy:** The Match Factory

**Icelandic with English subtitles**

Icelandic writer/director Ísöld Uggadóttir's deeply human drama tells the story of two very different women. Both single mothers, Lára is a trainee border control officer whose desperately needed new job begins to gnaw at her conscience when prodded by young cat-loving son Eldar. Then there's Adja, an asylum seeker fleeing Guinea Bissau in a fraught attempt to reach her daughter in Canada. Denied passage by Lára, Adja nevertheless comes to the officer's aid in unexpected fashion. Far from cloying, this is a soaring tribute to the power of female solidarity and the deep bonds of love in a harshly beautiful place.

**'Individual hardships reinforce the common humanity of two seemingly different women in Ísöld Uggadóttir's assured and moving debut.' – Screen Daily**



## Allure

**Session:** 19503

Sunday 17 March at 8.00pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19119

Saturday 23 March at 9.00pm

**ACMI**

**Australian Premiere**

**Dirs:** Carlos & Jason Sanchez,  
Canada, 2017, 105 mins

**Courtesy:** Seville International

Evan Rachel Wood gives a powerhouse performance as a woman, troubled by her past, who seeks sexual and emotional fulfillment through a series of failed relationships. Her life changes, however when she befriends and convinces an unhappy sixteen year-old girl (played by Julia Sarah Stone, *Weirdos*, MQFF 2018) to run away and live with her. Although the arrangement initially works, it soon becomes clear that there are disturbing power dynamics at play as their friendship morphs into something else. Manipulation, denial and co-dependency fuel what ultimately becomes a fractured dynamic that can only sustain itself for so long. A dark psychological drama that will stay with you long after you leave the cinema.

***'It is a sophisticated debut, taut and melancholy, that is effectually distinguished by the powerhouse performance of Evan Rachel Wood. Her character will floor you.'***  
– *Film Inquiry*



## Euphoria

**Session:** 19305

Sunday 17 March at 2.15pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Valeria Golino, Italy, 2018, 115 mins

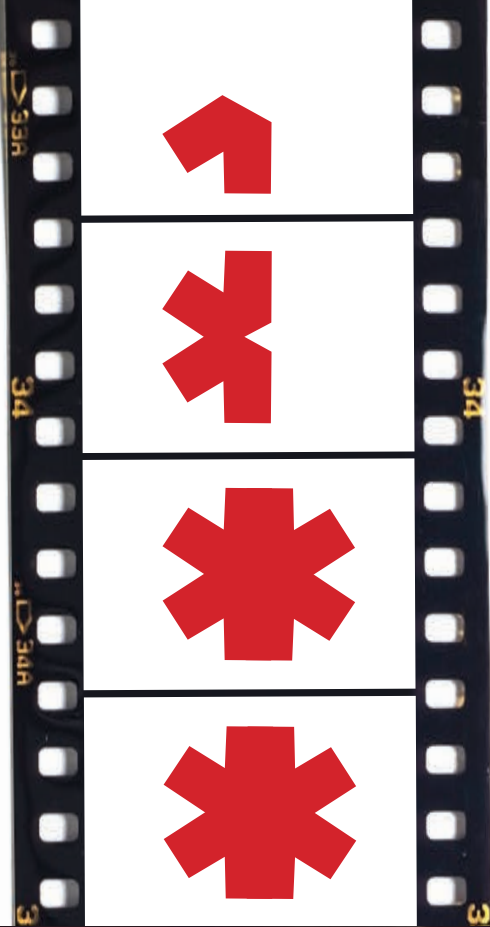
**Courtesy:** Palace Films

**Italian with English subtitles**

Channelling Federico Fellini's *La Dolce Vita* through a gay male lens, this unadulterated love letter to Rome and its people, is both visually and emotionally lush. Hunky Riccardo Scamarcio (*Loro*, *John Wick 2*) plays Matteo, an entrepreneurial playboy who owns a Vogue Living-ready apartment populated by a steady procession of cocaine-toting male lovers. Opening with a muscular body gyrating in a darkened hall illuminated only by torchlight shrouded in pink feathers, it's magnetic from the get go, with Matteo's frolics rudely interrupted when he receives news his older brother Ettore is gravely ill. Taking him in after years of estrangement, Matteo slowly but surely reconnects with him. A deeply affecting look at family frayed and remade, it was nominated for both the Queer Palm and the Un Certain Regard award at Cannes last year.

***'Terrific performances and unfailing visual polish.'*** – *Screen Daily*





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# Bring It Back

Newly restored classics of queer cinema.



## Buddies

***'Thirty-three years after its initial release, the film remains as affecting as ever.'* – Village Voice**

**Session:** 19405

Sunday 17 March at 12.45pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Arthur J. Bressan Jr, USA, 1985, 79 mins

**Courtesy:** Frameline Distribution

The first feature-length drama about AIDS, *Buddies* has long been unavailable until now. MQFF is proud to present a new 2K digital restoration of the film. When David (David Schachter) volunteers to be a "buddy" to an AIDS patient, the gay community centre assigns him to Robert (Geoff Edholm), a politically impassioned gardener abandoned by his friends and lovers. Revolving around the confines of Robert's Manhattan hospital room, director Arthur J. Bressan Jr (who sadly succumbed to the disease not long after completing the film) skilfully unfolds this devastating two-hander as David is slowly changed by knowing Robert and so too are we. This is a timeless and affecting portrait of a devastating era in gay history.

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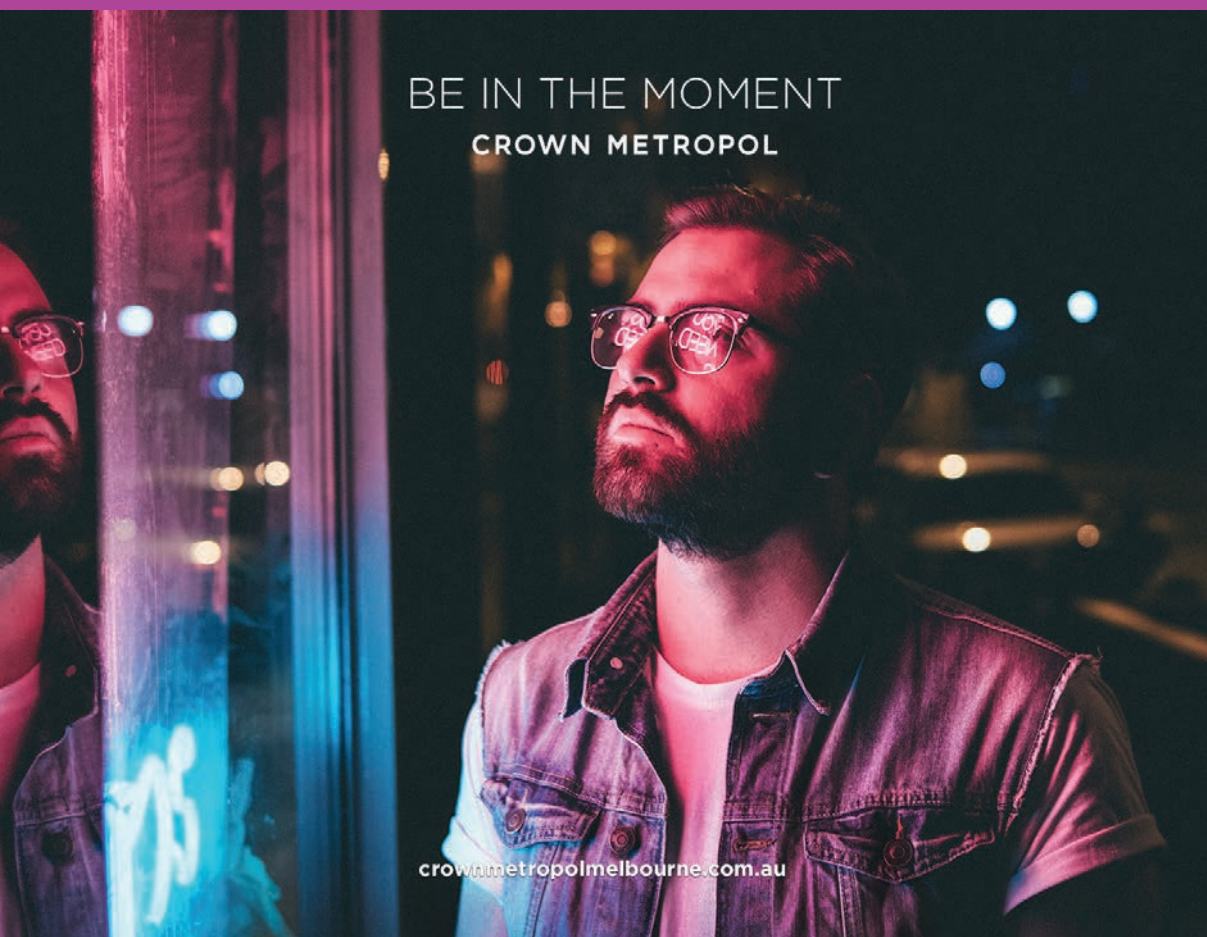




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# Dykes, Camera, Action

**'A thoroughly entertaining film' – Gay Essential**

**Session:** 19109

Sunday 17 March at 8.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19508

Friday 22 March at 6.30pm

**Village Jam Factory**

## **Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Caroline Berler, USA, 2018, 60 mins **Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

Screens with short **Greetings from Africa**

**Dir:** Cheryl Dunye, USA, 1996, 8 mins **Courtesy:** 13th Gen Film

This is the definitive doco on dyke cinema. More than an opportunity to revisit some lesbian classics (although that's a real treat too!) *Dykes* is a delightful and absorbing documentary about queer female identity and representation in film. It includes a look at activist works of the 1970s such as Barbara Hammer's experimental films, the boom in lesbian cinema in the 1990s, and the mainstreaming of contemporary queer narratives. Expert interviewees include queer filmmakers Rose Troche (*Go Fish*, *The L Word*), Cheryl Dunye (*The Watermelon Woman*) and Desiree Akhavan (*The Miseducation of Cameron Post*).



# Scotty And The Secret History Of Hollywood

**'A fascinating, occasionally shocking foray behind the silver screen.'**  
– *New York Times*

**Session:** 19104

Saturday 16 March at 5.00pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19411

Saturday 23 March at 3.00pm

**Cinema Nova**

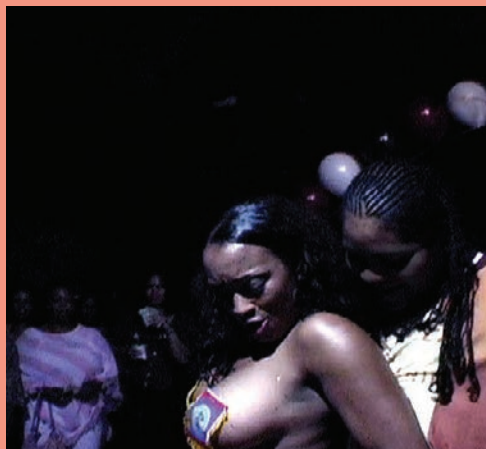
**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Matt Tyrnauer, USA, 2018, 98 mins **Courtesy:** Gunpowder & Sky

Based on his scandalous, dirt-dishing memoir, *Full Service*, this eye-opening documentary follows Scotty Bowers around Los Angeles as he recounts his wild, sexually explicit exploits during Hollywood's Golden Age.

After WW2, former marine Bowers came to Hollywood and began work at a gas station on Hollywood Boulevard. Handsome, personable and well-hung, he caught the eye of the town's stars and began having sex with many of the key players in the movie industry, and soon started connecting them with his band of beautiful and promiscuous friends. Cary Grant, Rock Hudson, Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracey are just some of the names mentioned. Fasten your seatbelts; it's going to be a bumpy night...





## Shakedown

**Session:** 19116

Friday 22 March at 10.15pm

**ACMI**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Leilah Weinraub, USA, 2018, 82 mins

**Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

Leilah Weinraub's *Shakedown* stands as a radical testament to the politics and the personalities of the Los Angeles POC Lesbian strip night 'Shakedown'.

The director, as a community member herself, opens the door for us to marinate in the spectacle of *Shakedown*'s early noughties heyday through to its chaotic closure at the hands of the LAPD. The film (supported by a mesmerising score from Tim Dewit) basks in the mysterious allure of community mythology and escapism. Likened most often to the seminal *Paris is Burning* (1990), this resourceful documentary was produced from over 300 hours of personal footage, posters and intimate interviews. *Shakedown* is already being considered a generous gift to queer film enthusiasts.

**'Rich with personalities, politically astute, and as nasty as it wants to be, *Shakedown* is a queer cultural intervention on par with *Paris is Burning*' – Cinema Scope**



## When The Beat Drops

**Winner Jury Prize Best Documentary  
Frameline Film Festival 2018**

**Session:** 19311

Thursday 21 March at 8.45pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Jamal Sims, USA, 2018, 85 mins

**Courtesy:** Cinetic Media

Take one part the legendary *Paris is Burning* (1990) and add in the frenetic energy of *Kiki* (MQFF 2017) and you'll get a good sense of this exhilarating documentary. Directed by Jamal Sims (famed *RuPaul's Drag Race* choreographer), this exciting film introduces you to the world of 'bucking', a style of dance that riffs off Majorette routines from college football games. This wild style of expression was created by gay African American men in the south over two decades ago and this once underground subculture is now entering into the mainstream. This electrifying glimpse into its major players features some ecstatic dance sequences and culminates in an edge-of-your-seat 'sickening' competition.





# Alone In The Game

**Session:** 19505

Monday 18 March at 6.30pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dirs:** Natalie Metzger, Michael Rohrbaugh, USA, 2018, 95 mins

**Courtesy:** David McFarland

**U15+**

In this moving and inspiring documentary, the price of the closet and homophobia in sport is laid out in stark reality. Through the stories of a group of vocal star gay athletes we see the hardships these men and women have had to endure simply for playing and excelling at something they feel passionate about. Featuring soccer star Robbie Rogers, Olympic medalist Gus Kenworthy and National League soccer player Megan Trapione, they recount their battles with the big business of sports and the culture of exclusion, bigotry and discrimination which continues to keep many athletes in the closet.

*'This beautifully executed documentary takes on an expansive subject – LGBT athletes in sports – and skillfully weaves a variety of stories in an informative, brisk and entertaining way.'* – *San Francisco Chronicle*

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# TransMilitary

**Session:** 19310

Thursday 21 March at 6.45pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Fiona Dawson, Gabriel Silverman, USA, 2018, 93 mins

**Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

The repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' in 2010 freed gay and lesbian people to serve openly in the US military for the first time. But more than 15,000 transgender military personnel were still officially banned. *TransMilitary* charts the attempts of a group of activists to repeal the ban, with success in the dying days of the Obama administration but challenged by the 2017 policy reinstatement by Donald Trump. It expertly traces the policy changes through the experiences of four dedicated military personnel – Jenn, Laila, Logan and El – who risk their careers by coming out as transgender. A timely, important and thoroughly engaging documentary.

*'An affecting and, despite present circumstances, hopeful doco.'*  
– *Hollywood Reporter*

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# The Ice King

**Session:** 19403

Saturday 16 March at 3.15pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** James Erskine, UK, 2018, 89 mins

**Courtesy:** Madman Entertainment

**PG — Mild Themes and Nudity**

Considered the greatest ice skater of all time, Englishman John Curry in the 1970s and '80s transformed a dated sport into an art form and made history by becoming the first openly gay Olympian. His body was bound by society to be a political battleground: from the most romantic love affairs to humiliation and violence in sex clubs, to its 'unmanly' elegance and beauty on the ice, he was an artist simply trying to express his authentic self.

From his gold medal-winning performances to travelling the world with his skating company, John Curry was a groundbreaking figure on and off the ice; graceful, beautiful, obsessive and controlling. *The Ice King* showcases this extraordinary man, a pioneer whose every act was an inescapable rebellion.

**'As emotional as it is exciting and graceful, THE ICE KING will dance into audience's hearts' – BBC**



# Every Act Of Life

**Session:** 19413

Sunday 24 March at 1.00pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Jeff Kaufman, USA, 2018, 90 mins

**Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

Multi award-winning playwright Terrence McNally has an impressive career spanning six decades, and this fabulous retrospective of the genius writer covers all of it. McNally was raised in working class Texas in the 1950s – a difficult time and place to grow up gay – but he never had any qualms about who he was. In 1965, McNally wrote the first openly gay character to appear on Broadway, and later the masterpiece *Love! Valor! Compassion!* His plays became an inspiration to gay people in the US and beyond. This winning documentary features wonderful interviews with McNally himself, as well as Nathan Lane, Angela Lansbury, Edie Falco and more.

**'A wonderful documentary on the prolific playwright Terrence McNally.'**  
– *Village Voice*



## Becoming Colleen

**Session:** 19107

Sunday 17 March at 4.00pm

**ACMI**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Ian W Thomson, Australia, 2018, 58 mins,

**Courtesy:** Ian W Thomson

Filmed in the sea spray of the beautiful NSW coastal town Coffs Harbour, documentary filmmaker Ian W Thomson introduces us to former police officer Colleen. An 85-year-old with a luminous smile, a sparky sense of humour and an impressive collection of high-heel shoes, she transitioned late in life, relocating to an aged-care facility, but not before broaching the subject with loving wife Heather. As family and friends readjust to her new (to them) identity with a little help from a local counsellor, it becomes a heart-warming story of community spirit.

Screens with the short **Grandmother and me**

**Dir:** Kat Cole, USA, 2018, 7 mins

**Join us after the screening for a special Q&A with director Ian W Thomson, Dr Catherine Barrett, Director of Celebrate Ageing and transgender business woman Sandra Pankhurst, whose amazing life was captured in the award winning book *The Trauma Cleaner*.**

**Proudly Presented by:**

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## The Quiet Rebel

**Session:** 19112

Tuesday 19 March at 6.00pm

**ACMI**

**Australian Premiere**

**Dir:** Carole Cassier, USA, 2018, 49 mins,

**Courtesy:** Carole Cassier

In 2013 Melbourne queer/feminist performance artist Casey Jenkins presented *Casting Off My Womb*. For 28 days Jenkins knitted a scarf with wool pulled out of her vagina, the work ruminated on fertility and the female body. A clip of the performance was posted online and quickly went viral, clocking up 7.5 million views on YouTube and Jenkins found herself in the middle of a raging storm of negative, violent and sexist comments.

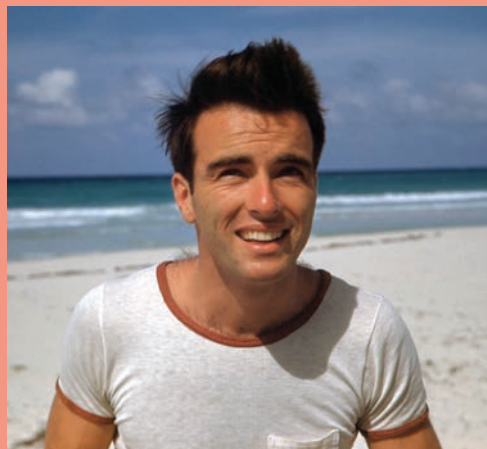
Carole Cassier's thoughtful documentary is a timely and thought-provoking look at the insidious silencing of female voices online and a queer woman's defiant refusal to remain silent.

Screens with the short **Instinct**

**Dir:** Maria Alice Arida, USA, 2018, 18 mins

**Courtesy:** AFI

**Join artist Casey Jenkins after the screening for an in conversation and Q&A, hosted by Molly O'Shaughnessy and Cassandra Chilton of the Hotham Street Ladies Collective.**



# Making Montgomery Clift

**Session:** 19404

Saturday 16 March at 5.00pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dirs:** Robert Anderson Clift, Hillary Demmon, USA, 2018, 87 mins

**Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

Legend has it that Hollywood matinee idol Montgomery Clift was a tortured and tragic figure, who was unable to live with his homosexual desires. These conflicted feelings eventually drove him to drink and an early grave.

Co-Directed by his youngest nephew, this essential and fascinating documentary goes a long way in correcting this misinformation by presenting us with a keenly intelligent man who was very open about his sexuality and fully in command of his illustrious film career. Featuring an incredible archive of material mostly gleamed from Clift's brother who kept an unprecedented amount of personal home footage, audio recordings and documents. This a must for film buffs and anyone interested in queer Hollywood history.

**'A welcome corrective to simplistic and salacious Hollywood lore.'**

**– Hollywood Reporter**



# Life In The Doghouse

**Session:** 19402

Saturday 16 March at 1.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dir:** Ron Davis, USA, 2018, 80 mins

**Courtesy:** Film Rise

This heartwarming documentary tells the inspiring story behind Danny & Ron's Rescue, a dog rescue centre. Started by life partners Ron Danta and Danny Robertshaw, the two men were moved to act after Hurricane Katrina left thousands of dogs stranded and abandoned. The two men set up a makeshift dog sanctuary in their home and ten years later they have housed and rescued over 10,000 of these furry babies. Cuteness factor aside (which is very high by the way), this is a moving and heartening testament to these two men who have sacrificed their life (and finances) to become the voice for abused, abandoned and starving dogs.





## Man Made

**Winner Jury Award Best Documentary  
Feature Atlanta Film Festival 2018**

**Session:** 19301

Saturday 16 March at 1.00pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** T Cooper, USA, 2018, 98 mins

**Courtesy:** Film Collaborative

Trans FitCon, the world's only all-transgender bodybuilding competition plays centerpiece to documentarian T Cooper's 'uplifting' (pun intended) film. *Man Made* follows the lives of four trans men and their families in the months leading to the weekend-long competition. The character-driven documentary unearths the intimate motivations that drive them to oil up and step up on stage. The film doesn't shy away from their physical and emotional challenges and is a tribute to the vulnerability shared by both the men and their families.

Ultimately this is a beautiful portrayal of the ways in which we all choose to define and celebrate ourselves.

**'A sensitive snapshot of four lives in transition.'** – *Hollywood Reporter*



## Silvana

**Session:** 19502

Sunday 17 March at 5.45pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Melbourne Premiere**

**Dirs:** Mika Gustafson, Olivia Kastebring, Christina Tsiobanelis, Sweden, 2017, 95 mins

**Courtesy:** Rise and Shine

**Swedish with English subtitles**

**U15+**

The self-described 'Vincent Van Gogh of rap', Swedish hip hop artist Silvana Imam is a force of nature who smashed into the male-dominated industry and painted rainbow colours all over Sweden. This vital, empowering documentary follows the eloquent and outspoken Silvana with unparalleled access, incorporating concert footage as well as childhood home movies. Central to the film is Silvana's first meeting with pop star Beatrice Eli and their remarkable emergence as a lesbian power couple who pack out stadiums with their politically charged music. A potent reminder of the power of music to start revolutions.

**'Silvana gives the fight for equality a defiant punch of grrrrl power with this exciting and fluidly unconventional music doc.'**

– *POV Magazine*

**Proudly Presented by:**



# Pioneers

Sex, fashion and disco. A spotlight on two queer trailblazers who have shaped the world of fashion, photography and art.



## Antonio Lopez 1970: Sex, Fashion & Disco

**Session:** 19308

Wednesday 20 March at 6.45pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** James Crump, USA, 2017, 90 mins

**Courtesy:** Dogwolf

Ah, the 1970s – famous for sex, fashion, and disco, all of which are brought into dizzying focus in this highly entertaining documentary about Antonio Lopez, the Puerto-Rican American illustrator who revolutionised fashion drawing. From New York to Paris, this thrilling doco covers Lopez's bisexual playboy shenanigans in the pre-AIDS, liberated 1970s fashion scene, his work with lover and long-time collaborator Juan Ramos, and his iconic portraits of Jerry Hall, Grace Jones and Jessica Lange, to name drop a few. The whole thing is propelled by a brilliant funk and disco soundtrack. Can you dig it?

**'A vibrant period portrait of New York's creative scenesters' – LA Times**



## Love, Cecil

**Session:** 19313

Saturday 23 March at 3.15pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Australian Premiere**

**Dir:** Lisa Immordino Vreeland, USA, 2017, 98 mins

**Courtesy:** Zeitgeist Films

Oscar winning set and costume designer, photographer, writer, painter and dandy Cecil Beaton was not only a dazzling chronicler, but an arbiter of his time. From the Bright Young Things to the front lines of war and the pages of *Vogue* and then onto the Queen's official photographer, Beaton embodied the cultural and political changes of the 20th century. Narrated by Rupert Everett and featuring stellar interviews with David Bailey, Manolo Blahnik and David Hockney, director Lisa Immordino Vreeland (*Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has To Travel*, *Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict*) blends archival footage and photographs with voice over of Beaton's famed diaries to capture his legacy as a complex and unique creative force.

**Photo credit:** Courtesy of the Cecil Beaton Studio Archive at Sotheby's

**'Love, Cecil demonstrates how a documentary can be a magical experience.'**  
– *Variety*

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THE FAVOURITE Forgive Me?  
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RHAPSODY A BOYBAND FANGIRL STORY ERASED  
Collette THE COMING BACK  
CLIMAX OUT BALL MOVIE WHITNEY  
Disobedience McKELLEN: PLAYING THE PART  
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ANDRÉ THE PARTY  
THE MISEDUCATION A Fantastic Woman  
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# SMOKE SCREEN

EXPLORING THE LINKS BETWEEN QUEER ART, FILM  
AND CULTURE AND OUR HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS

**Hosted by BENJAMIN LAW with...**

**Ro Allen**

Victorian Commissioner for  
Gender and Sexuality

**Todd Harper**

CEO Cancer Council Victoria

**Dr Julie Mooney-Somers**

Senior Lecturer in Qualitative Health  
Research at University of Sydney

**Cerise Howard**

Co-curator of the Melbourne  
Cinémathèque, co-founder of tilde:  
Melbourne's Trans & Gender  
Diverse Film Festival and Artistic  
Director of the Czech and Slovak  
Film Festival of Australia

**Patrick Abboud**

SBS Journalist, Founder of The Feed  
and Co-Host of Mardi Gras

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# MQFF Gives Back

Empowering queer filmmakers through innovative workshops and festival prizes.

## PITCH, PLEEZ!

**Session: 19005**

**Sunday 17 March at 3.30pm**

**Roc's Bar, Village Jam Factory**

MQFF has proudly supported and fostered local queer filmmaking talent through its various awards and prizes, over its 29 years.

In 2019, we are thrilled to announce an exciting new initiative and prize, a pitching competition – *Pitch, Pleez!* This prize will offer Australian

LGBTIQ+ filmmakers the opportunity to create original content by assisting the production of a short fiction, documentary or web series pilot. The winning pitch will continue to address MQFF's central values of celebrating and showcasing proudly different queer stories in an Australian context.

The selected individual or team will be participating in an open session pitch-off event to be held in front of a jury of industry experts and a live audience, so come and cheer on our finalists.

**This is a free event**

**Proudly supported by Matthew Lee and:**



## Supporting Queer Talent

MQFF is proud to support local emerging filmmaking talent. Supported by Film Victoria, Australian filmmakers selected for the 2019 program are invited to participate in an exclusive film lab.

This is all made possible by our awards sponsors and donors.

### MQFF and JURY Awards

**City of Melbourne Award for the Best Australian Short Film (\$3,000)\***

**Film Victoria Award for Best Director – Australian Short Film (\$2,000)**

**Shaun Miller Lawyers Award for Best Screenplay – Australian Short Film (\$500)**

**MQFF Jury Award for Best Feature Documentary (\$2,500)**

**MQFF Jury Award for Best First Feature Narrative (\$2,500)**

**Blackmagic Design Award – Best Cinematography (Blackmagic Design Pocket Cinema Camera 4k valued at \$2,000)**

**MQFF Award for Best International Short fiction or documentary (\$1,000)**

**Proudly Supported by:**



### Audience Choice Awards

**Step Right Up Audience Choice Award for Best Short Film (\$500)**

**Audience Choice Award for Best Feature Narrative or Documentary (\$1,000)**

Vote for your favourite film by rating films online at [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) or on the app.

**Proudly Presented by:**



\*Recipients of the Best Australian Short Film award are automatically qualified to be nominated for The Iris Prize – the largest prize for LGBTIQ+ short film in the world.

# Wildings

Radical and experimental queer moving image.

Wildings is MQFF's biennial sidebar of radical and experimental queer moving images produced in partnership with The University of Melbourne, and curated by filmmaker Anna Helme. Our special guest from Los Angeles, transgender filmmaker/curator Finn Paul, will be at the festival to present the shorts program *Desire and Resistance*, and to lead our filmmaker's workshop.

## Shorts:

**Desire And Resistance:  
Unearthing Trans Legacies**

**Session:** 19114

Friday 22 March at 6.15pm

**ACMI**

Curated by Finn Paul, these works place trans\* sexual expression and resistance in conversation with a non-linear idea of history that is both real and fabricated, defiantly looking toward a future of pleasure, play and beauty.

**Outlaw, Dir:** Alisa Lebow, 1994, USA,  
(Excerpt – 16 mins)

**St Pel, Dir:** Jason Barker, 1998, USA, 13 mins

**FlyHole, Dir:** Malic Amalya, 2017, USA, 6 mins

**She Whose Blood is Clotting My Underwear,  
Dir:** Vika Kirchenbauer, 2016, USA, 3 mins

**At Least You Know You Exist, Dir:** Zackary  
Drucker, 2011, USA, 16 mins



**Pussy Boy, Dir:** Alec Butler, 2002, USA, 5 mins

**beside the water, 1999–2003 Dir:** Finn Paul,  
2018, USA, 12 mins

**Desperado, Dir:** Andre Keichian, 2008,  
USA, 2 mins

**Mighty Real, Dir:** Vicente Ugartechea,  
2018, USA, 3 mins

**Happy Birthday, Marsha! Dir:** Reina Gossett  
and Sasha Wortzel, 2016, USA, 14 mins

**Total run time:** 90 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details

## Workshop:

**Making Films With Friends  
And (Queer) Family**

**Session:** 19801

Saturday 23 March at 1.00pm

**ACMI**

What are the challenges and possibilities of making moving image work with your own community of lovers and friends? We get together to discuss methods we have of working respectfully and sensitively with our own. Finn Paul will introduce his own practice working in communities on the USA West Coast, and lead us in a skill-share in which participants contribute their own knowledge to the conversation. This workshop has limited spaces so get in quick.

## Panel:

**Can Love (and Sex) Change The World?**

**Session:** 19802

Sunday 24 March at 2.00pm

**ACMI**

Boundary-pushing queer and transgender moving image artists meet wave-making indigenous, gender diverse and feminist academics, critics, performers and curators in this cross-disciplinary session. We ask: How important is it for us to tell our own stories, using our own desiring bodies, on screen? In the age of marriage equality, what power can queer desire have to make change?

**This is a free event**

# Episodic Showcase

Original serial storytelling told through a queer lens.



## Two Weeks

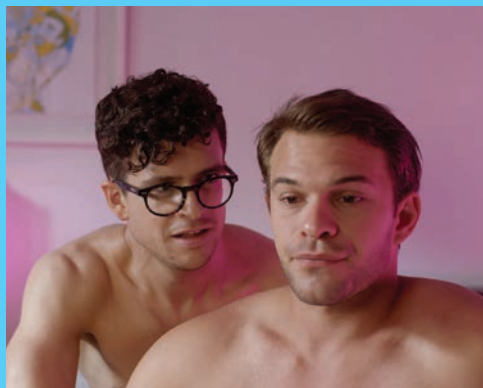
**Session:** 19306

Tuesday 19 March at 6.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dirs:** Rachel Anderson, Daniel Anderson, Isabel Stanfield, Australia, 2018, 80 mins,  
**Courtesy:** Fortnight Films

Set around inner city Brisbane, *Two Weeks* is an engaging, warm and heartfelt drama that chronicles the complicated love lives of a group of LGBTQ 20 – something friends trying to work things out and making a mess of it. The three interconnecting stories revolve around; Audrey who has reconnected with a toxic ex-girlfriend; Mitch and his long term boyfriend Alex, whose relationship has gone a bit stale; and Lucas, whose love life is complicated by the growing attraction between himself and his best friend Laura's sexually confused boyfriend. Very much grounded by a purposeful sense of place and elevated by the winning performances from the central cast, this will become your next favourite binge watch. Specially presented at MQFF 2019 is the feature length version of season one.



## Episodic Shorts

**Session:** 19304

Sunday 17 March at 12.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

Queer filmmakers are finding surprising ways to tell their stories and none have been more fruitful and liberating than the episodic format. Taking their time to tell the stories they want and coupled with the financial freedom to do it their way, has generated an exciting breeding ground for emerging queer voices to create personal works that hum with energy, authenticity and originality.

### Triads

**Dir:** Matt McClelland, 2018, USA, 24 mins

### Broad Strokes

**Dir:** Phillip Vernon, 2018, USA, 17 mins

### Woke

**Dirs:** Maxime Potherat, Jules Thénier, 2017, France, 28 mins

### Ding Dong I'm gay

**Dir:** Sarah Bishop, 2018, Australia, 6 mins

### Dinette

**Dir:** Shaina Feinberg, 2018, USA, 15 mins

**Total run time:** 90 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details

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A pixel art character with a green cap, sunglasses, and a blue shirt with a white 'F' on it, is watering large green plants with a watering can. The background is dark grey with a pattern of small white leaves and ferns.

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# Australian Shorts & Awards

**Session:** 19004

Sunday 24 March at 5.15pm

**ACMI**

MQFF's jewel in the crown is back with another exciting collection of films showcasing new and returning Australian filmmaking talent. These exciting voices and stories take on subjects as diverse as coming out and running away from a dangerous cult, a confidant that is very 'fishy', a feminist protest in a small country pub and a young man grappling with an evangelical church and his emerging desire for men.

MQFF with the City of Melbourne is proud to present this selection of Australian shorts. All of which are eligible for the following Jury awards that will be presented after the screening.

**The City of Melbourne Award for the Best Australian Short (\$3,000)**

**Film Victoria Award for Best Director (\$2,000)**

**Shaun Miller Lawyers for Best Screenplay (\$500)**

**Blackmagic Design Award – Best Cinematography**

(Blackmagic Design Pocket Cinema Camera 4k valued at \$2,000)

**Sammy the Salmon**

**Dir:** Jake Shannon, 2018, 6 mins

**Cherry Season**

**Dir:** Joshua Longhurst, 2018, 13 mins

**Joy Boy**

**Dir:** Stef Smith, 2018, 9 mins

**Great Again**

**Dir:** Kirrilee Bailey, 2018, 6 mins

**Shepherd**

**Dir:** Clay Waddell, 2018, 11 mins

**Ladies Lounge**

**Dir:** Monique Bettello, 2018, 8 mins

**Broken**

**Dir:** Stevie Cruz-Martin, 2018, 10 mins

**Bodies**

**Dir:** Laura Nagy, 2018, 15 mins

**Jupiter**

**Dir:** Michael Zito, 2018, 13 mins

**Total run time:** 91 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details

**Proudly Presented by:**





## Queer First Nations Shorts

**Session:** 19110

Monday 18 March at 6.00pm

**ACMI**

MQFF is proud to present for the first time a showcase that celebrates our queer indigenous brothers and sisters. This shorts package highlights the remarkable talents of these taste makers and artists who are changing the landscape of drag, contemporary music and comedy (not to mention Eurovision), as they lead the way for future generations of young Australians.

**Black Divaz**

**Dir:** Adrian Russell Wills, 2018, 60 mins

**Voices from the Desert**

**Dirs:** Amy Pysden, Daniel Clarke, 2018, 30 mins

**Unboxed: Beau**

**Dir:** Sam Matthews, 2018, 6 mins

**Total run time:** 96 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details

*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are advised that this program contains images and voices of people who have died.*



## We're All In This Together

**Session:** 19804

Sunday 17 March at 3.00pm

**ACMI Studio**

**Dir:** Logan Mucha, Australia, 2018, 17 mins

**Courtesy:** City of Melbourne

**U15+**

In this hybrid-documentary, a diverse cast of young queer people retell five stories from Melbourne's queer community to create a snapshot of our collective history.

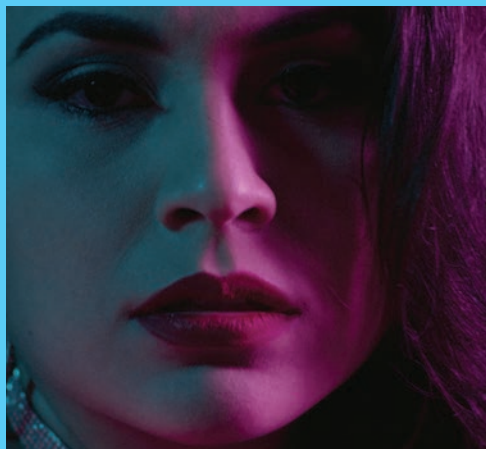
Director Logan Mucha recorded and transcribed extensive interviews with Sally Conning, Jude Munro, Lizzie Craig, Shaun Miller and an anonymous Ugandan asylum seeker, as they recount verbatim stories of public protest, police brutality and isolation. *We're All In This Together* retells history through the younger generation to explore how far we've come and what we still need to fight for.

**Please join us after the screening for a Q&A with director Logan Mucha, hosted by Shaun Miller and featuring the film's subjects.**

**This is a free event**

**Funded by the City of Melbourne's annual arts grants program.**





## Girl On Girl Shorts

**Session:** 19204

Saturday 16 March at 5.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19409

Thursday 21 March at 6.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

These diverse and fierce group of women take on antiquated tradition, learn to love again, reconnect with high school crushes and take on the ugliest Lucille Ball tribute statue.

**Scary Lucy**

**Dir:** Marteene Diaz, 2018, USA, 21 mins

**Would You Look at Her**

**Dir:** Goran Stolevski, 2018, Macedonia, 18 mins

**Masks**

**Dir:** Mahaliyah Ayla O, 2018, USA, 23 mins

**3 Centimetres**

**Dir:** Lara Zeidan, 2017, Lebanon, UK, 9 mins

**Wild Geese**

**Dir:** Susan Jacobson, 2018, UK, 17 mins

**Forget-Me-Not**

**Dir:** Ferran Navarro-Beltrán, 2018, Spain, 7 mins

**Total run time:** 95 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details

**Proudly Presented by:**



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## Laws Of Desire

**Session:** 19709

Saturday 23 March at 6.45pm

**Village Jam Factory**

Desire can take on many shapes and forms as we discover in this sensual and enlightening collection of films that celebrate the different and complicated ways we love. From a love letter to butch desire, to an innocent kiss that takes on deeper resonance and an illicit one night stand with troubling strings attached, these shorts will take you there.

**Desire**

**Dir:** Campbell X, 2018, UK, 9 mins

**Girl Talk**

**Dir:** Erica Rose, 2018, USA, 17 mins

**The Tingle Test**

**Dir:** Rhett Wade-Ferrell, 2018, Australia, 6 mins

**Undone**

**Dir:** Francesca Castelbuono, 2018, UK, 15 mins

**Marguerite**

**Dir:** Marianne Farley, 2018, Canada, 19 mins

**Musings**

**Dir:** Bina Bhattacharya, 2018, Australia, 15 mins

**Letters from Childhood**

**Dir:** José Magro, 2018, Portugal, 3 mins

**Total run time:** 84 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details





## Guy On Guy Shorts

**Session:** 19602

Saturday 16 March at 6.45pm

**Village Jam Factory**

**Session:** 19212

Tuesday 19 March at 6.15pm

**ACMI**

This package of award-winning films from around the world showcases the connections we forge and the love we make. Turning the spotlight on us, these enlightening tales take you on an unexpected first date, a trip into the desert for an illicit tryst that goes horribly wrong, a drag tribute to mothers and a sensual courtship dance set amongst a bleak and unforgiving housing commission block.

**Run(a)way Arab**

**Dir:** Amrou Al-Kadhi, 2018, USA, 12 mins

**Blood Out of a Stone**

**Dir:** Ben Allen, 2017, UK, 13 mins

**Crashing Waves**

**Dir:** Emma Gilbertson, 2018, UK, 4 mins

**The Things You Think I'm Thinking**

**Dir:** Sherren Lee, 2017, Canada, 14 mins

**Between Here and Now**

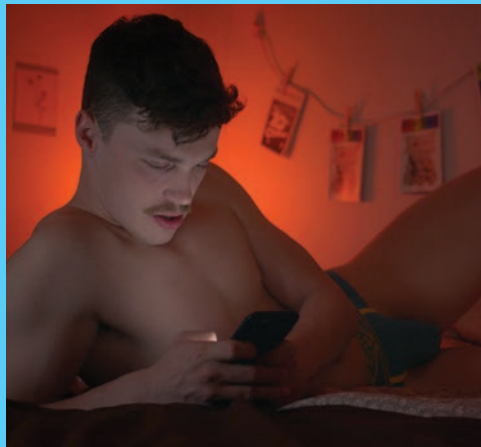
**Dir:** Jannik Splidsboel, 2018, Denmark, 22 mins

**Our Way Back**

**Dir:** Moshe Rosenthal, 2018, Israel, 26 mins

**Total run time:** 91 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details



## Hooking Up

**Session:** 19203

Friday 15 March at 10.15pm

**ACMI**

**Session:** 19215

Friday 22 March at 8.30pm

**ACMI**

Hooking up can happen in the most unexpected places, as we discover in this collection of steamy and eye-opening shorts. Discover what it was like picking up in East Berlin in the 80s, how to navigate the thorny subject of picking up your bestie's crush and what to do when you bump into a loved one at an exclusive orgy.

**Rubber Dolphin**

**Dir:** Ori Aharon, 2018, Israel, 28 mins

**ruok**

**Dir:** Jay Russell, 2018, USA, 13 mins

**Free Fall**

**Dir:** Santiago Henao Vélez, 2018, Colombia, 14 mins

**Enter**

**Dirs:** Manuel Billi, Benjamin Bodi, 2018, France, 18 mins

**Far Out**

**Dir:** Jan-Peter Horstmann, 2018, Germany, 24 mins

**Contains Sexually Explicit Material**

**Total run time:** 97 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details



# Comedy Shorts

**Session:** 19218

Saturday 23 March at 7.15pm

**ACMI**

This always popular shorts showcase highlights what we all know already, us queers can be damn funny. This sparkling collection of 8 films takes you from lol to awkward at the blink of an eye, to touching on subjects such as gay conversion therapy for pugs, embracing your inner femme, the uncomfortable truth of being a bottom and the worst possible ways to come out.

**Sam Did It**

**Dir:** Dominic Burgess, 2018, UK, 11 mins

**Repugnant**

**Dir:** Kyan Krumdieck, 2018,  
New Zealand, 12 mins

**Femme**

**Dir:** Alden Peters, 2018, USA, 18 mins

**Softcore**

**Dir:** Varun Saranga, 2018, Canada, 7 mins

**With Thelma**

**Dir:** Ann Sirot, 2017, Belgium, France, 14 mins

**The Shit! (An Opera)**

**Dir:** Kevin Rios, 2018, USA, 6 mins

**Misdirection**

**Dir:** Carly Usdin, 2018, USA, 14 mins

**How I Came Out**

**Dir:** Mark Goshorn Jones, 2018,  
USA, 6 mins

**Total run time:** 88 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details



## Documentary Shorts

**Session:** 19120

Sunday 24 March at 3.00pm

**ACMI**

A collection of short non-fiction wonders that take bite-sized slices of life and open up a revealing world of what it means to be queer from one generation to the next. These powerful testaments touch on the isolation of being a queer farmer, the lasting and damaging effects of draconian laws, navigating sexuality in a macho Cuban environment and finding your way through the dating scene as a young gay man with cerebral palsy.

**Thomas Banks' Quest for Love**

**Dir:** Pip Kelly, 2018, Australia, 30 mins

 *Note this film will be screening with Open Captions*

**Bachelor, 38**

**Dir:** Angela Clarke, 2018, UK, 15 mins

**Duo Impacto**

**Dir:** Miranda Everingham, 2018, Cuba, 8 mins

**Landline**

**Dir:** Matt Houghton, 2017, UK, 12 mins

**Lasting Marks**

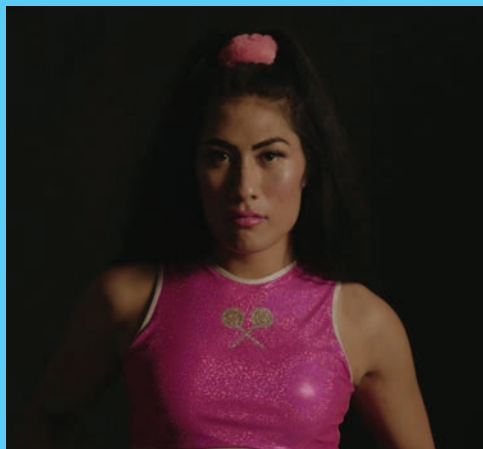
**Dir:** Charlie Lyne, 2018, UK, 15 mins

**Pride Out West**

**Dir:** Kellie Jennar, 2018, Australia, 11 mins

**Total run time: 91 mins**

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details



## Transformations

**Session:** 19113

Tuesday 19 March at 8.00pm

**ACMI**

Meet the new generation of trans trailblazers, a fierce crew of fighters, lovers and wrestlers, as they break down barriers one headlock at a time. This luminous collection of local and international shorts take you on an essential journey ranging from the competitive world of professional wrestling, the complexities of drag as a transgender man and forgetting to break up with your band and your ex.

**We Forgot to Break Up, Dir:** Chandler Levack, 2018, USA, 16 mins

**Sam, Dir:** Stephanie Camacho Casillas, 2018, Puerto Rico, 11 mins

**Candy's Crush, Dir:** Roberto Nascimento, 2018, New Zealand, 7 mins

**Push Pink, Dir:** Kai Tillman, 2017, USA, 9 mins

**Sistergirl, Dir:** Alexandra Edmondson, 2018, Australia, 11 mins

**Something About Alex, Dir:** Reinout Hellenenthal, 2018, Netherlands, 18 mins

**Transblack: Max, Dir:** Charmaine Ingram, 2018, Australia, 11 mins

**The Switch, Dir:** Neala Cullen, 2018, New Zealand, 11 mins

**Total run time: 94 mins**

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details

*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are advised that this program contains images and voices of people who have died.*

# Young and Queer

A selection of award-winning features and shorts exploring gender, sexuality and youth.



## Everybody's Talking About Jamie

**Session:** 19312

Saturday 23 March at 12.30pm

**Cinema Nova**

**Dir:** Jonathan Butterell,

UK, 2018, 130 mins

**Courtesy:** Sharmill Films

**U15+**

The most joyous and queer-affirming time you'll have in the cinema this festival is *Everybody's Talking about Jamie*, the sparkling and multi award-winning musical filmed live at the Apollo Theatre in London.

Jamie New has just turned 16 and dreams of being a drag queen. He lives with his supportive single mum in a council flat but is bullied at school for being gay; however, Jamie's no easy pushover, he's quick-witted and altogether fabulous. With a little help from local drag legend, Loco Channele, and his best friend, Pritti, he's all set to throw aside the haters and stand tall in the limelight, where he belongs!

**'A true big-hearted crowd-pleaser.'**  
- *Evening Standard*



## Youth Shorts

**Session:** 19401

Saturday 16 March at 12.00pm

**Cinema Nova**

This collection of inspiring and heartfelt shorts celebrates a diverse cross-section of queer teens and kids as they navigate the perilous and wonderful journey to adulthood.

**Prom Night, Dir:** Sam McGowan, 2018, Australia, 10 mins

**Goldfish, Dir:** Yorgos Angelopoulos, 2017, Greece, 14 mins

**Transpiration, Dir:** Holly Volkner, Maggie Brittingham, 2018, Australia, 11 mins

**Dario, Dirs:** Manuel Kinzer, Jorge A. Trujillo, 2018, Colombia, 15 mins

**Charlie, Dir:** Lesley Johnson, 2018, Canada, 7 mins

**Maybe, Dir:** Kat Cole, 2018, USA, 10 mins

**Eyes On You, Dir:** Adam Kiers, 2018, Australia, 4 mins

**Listen, Dir:** Jake Graf, 2018, UK, 4 mins

**MQFF recommends 15+**

**Total run time:** 75 mins

Check [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for further details

**Proudly Presented by:**





# Venues

## VILLAGE CINEMAS

**Jam Factory, 500 Chapel Street,  
South Yarra VIC 3141**

For the first time in its history, MQFF will be showcasing its iconic Opening Night at the acclaimed Village Cinemas Jam Factory, along with a wide selection of films across the entire Festival.

Village Cinemas will be screening MQFF in its Vpremium and Vmax theatres.

### Getting There:

**Tram:** Route 78 (stop 49 or 48), Route 72 (stop 31, 5 minute walk),

Route 58 (stop 128, 5 minute walk)

**Train:** South Yarra Station (5 minute walk),  
Hawksburn Station (5 minute walk).

## acmi

**ACMI, Federation Square, Melbourne**

ACMI, located in Melbourne City, will play host to the 2019 MQFF Centrepiece and Closing Night, along with a selection of films across the entire Festival.

An audience favourite, the venue is located conveniently in Melbourne City.

### Getting There:

**Train:** Flinders Street Station

**Tram:** Any Swanston Street or St Kilda Road

Tram to stop 13. Trams 35, 70 or 75 to stop 6.



**380 Lygon Street, Carlton**

Just a short tram ride or walk from Melbourne City, Cinema Nova will play host to the 2019 MQFF, screening a selection of films across the entire festival.

### Getting There:

**Tram:** 1 or 6 to stop 112. Any Swanston Street tram to stop 1.

## Festival Lounges

In 2019, MQFF will have a Festival Lounge located conveniently at each venue that will encourage connections with other audience members whilst enriching the Festival experience.

**Village Jam Factory** – Roc's Bar

**ACMI** – AMCI Bar and Café

**Cinema Nova** – Kitchen and Bar

**Each lounge has unique MQFF Member and/or audience discounts.**



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# Thank You

We would not be able to share the best of LGBTIQ+ cinema with our Melbourne audiences, and visitors, without the support of our partners and sponsors, members, private donors, and the dedication of over one hundred volunteers who generously give their time each year. Please take a bow!

## Management

**Chief Executive Officer** – Maxwell Gratton

**Program Director** – Spiro Economopoulos

**Finance Manager** – Helen Walmsley

**Business Manager** – Daniel Lancefield

**Operations Manager** – Bonnie Perry

**Festival Publicist and Media** – Annette Smith, Ned and Co.

**Office Administration Coordinators** –

Zoe Smith, Lili Rojo, Karolina Judd, Nicole Richardson, Daniela Caldas.

**Social Media Coordinators** –

Patricia Abalos, Gabriella Astiti, Benjamin Grez, Maizy Sutcliffe.

## Board of Directors

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Cathy Anderson (President)

David Morgan (Secretary)

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Jay Longworth

David Magdic

Gin Masters

David Micallef

Brian Robertson

Molly Whelan

Alan White

## Selection Panel

Stephen A Russell, Paul Tonta, Emmett Aldred, Kim Montgomery, Gina Lambropoulos

## Program Guide

**Editors** – Cathy Anderson, Spiro Economopoulos, Maxwell Gratton, David Micallef, David Morgan, Molly Whelan.

**Program Notes** – Spiro Economopoulos, Stephen A Russell, Rachel Brown, Paul Tonta, Emmett Aldred.

## Life Members

Rowland Thompson, Crusader Hillis, Madeleine Swain, Suzie Goodman, Miss Jan Horstman, David McCarthy, Richard Watts, Suzy Green, Rowena Doo, Luke Gallagher, Alex Green, Paul Tonta, Leanne Sumpter, Colin Billing, Claire Jackson, Lisa Daniel, Paul Clifton, Roberta Armitage.

## Festival Sweethearts

Our private donors – MQFF Sweethearts – directly support the Festival's operations and programming, and by doing so help maintain our reputation for excellence in LGBTIQ film presentation. The Festival warmly acknowledges our 2019 Sweethearts:

**Sapphire:** Alan White, Jay Longworth, Margaret Cannington, Patrick Fitzgerald, Maureen Reedy, Leonard Vary.

**Ruby:** Cathy Anderson, Lan Wang, Gail Veal.

**Emerald:** Daniel Neal, Serena Chow, Ayan Dasvarma, Deborah Storz, Laura Beckett, James Houghton, Richard Laslett, Colin Gunther, Samuel Murray.

**Diamond:** Geoff Spurrell.

**Silver:** Matthew Lee.



MQFF is a registered not-for-profit organisation and all donations above \$2 are tax deductible.

MQFF makes every effort, in its best endeavours, to ensure that all details are correct at the time of printing. We apologise for any unforeseen program changes, errors or omissions.

#MQFF2019



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CST

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*precinct*

**Come play,  
we are very open minded!**

 @chapelprecinct

[chapelstreet.com.au/mqff](http://chapelstreet.com.au/mqff)





**Melbourne Queer Film Festival**  
**14 – 25 March 2019**  
Festival Planner

# Venues and Getting There

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## Village Jam Factory

500 Chapel Street.  
South Yarra



## ACMI

Australian Centre for the Moving Image,  
Federation Square, Melbourne



## Cinema Nova

380 Lygon Street,  
Carlton



## Festival Lounges

A great spot to grab a bite and a drink before or  
after enjoying a film.

**Jam Factory:** Roc's Bar

**ACMI:** ACMI Cafe and Bar

**Cinema Nova:** Nova Bar

Each lounge has unique MQFF member discounts.

See [mqff.com.au/venues](http://mqff.com.au/venues) for our special event programming.

# How to get to MQFF on Public Transport

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## Village Jam Factory

**Train:** South Yarra Station

**Tram:** Route 78 or 58

## ACMI

**Train:** Flinders Street Station

**Tram:** Any Swanston Street or St Kilda Road tram to stop 13.  
Trams 35, 70 or 75 to stop 6.

## Cinema Nova

**Tram:** 1 or 6 to stop 112, any tram on Swanston Street to stop 1.

Please see our website for parking information.

# Admission Conditions

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## Classification

The classification Board grants MQFF special customs and  
censorship clearances that mean all audience members  
must be 18 years or over except where indicated.

## Concession Tickets

Full-time students, pensioners, unwaged and seniors.

## Refunds Policy

All purchases are non-refundable, except in some instances  
if a session is cancelled. Exchanges can be made up to 2  
hours before a session commences and incur fees.

Visit [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for full Terms and Conditions.

## Access

MQFF is committed to increasing accessibility across  
the festival.

All MQFF venues are wheelchair accessible and have  
accessible toilets.

MQFF supports and accepts the Companion Card. To book  
tickets using your Companion Card, or to book a wheelchair  
space, or to advise us of your access needs, please call  
**03 9662 4147**. Companion Card Tickets and wheelchair  
spaces are currently unable to be booked online.

# Tickets

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## Opening Night

Full \$85/Con \$72/Member \$68

## Closing Night

Full \$38/Con \$32/Member \$30

## Centrepiece

Full \$30/Con \$26/Member \$24

## Single Ticket

Full \$21/Con \$18/Member or Groups (10+) \$17

## 2 Tickets

Full \$42/Con \$36/Member \$34

## All-In Pass

\$356 Member

## MQFF Membership

\$68 Full/\$58 Con/\$47 Under 30

## Passes

3 Film Pass

Full \$58/Con \$50/Member \$47

## 5 Film Pass

Full \$93/Con \$80/Member \$75

## 7 Film Pass

Full \$128/Con \$109/Member \$103

## 10 Film Pass

Full \$175/Con \$150/Member \$140

# How To Buy Tickets

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## 1. Download the app

Browse and purchase tickets on the official MQFF iPhone and Android app. No printing required – bring your smartphone to be scanned at the door.



## 2. Online at [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au)

## 3. At the Box Office

**14-25 March:** 10am-late at ACMI tickets & Information Desk.

**Jam Factory and Cinema Nova:** Open 1 hour prior to the MQFF start time.

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For more detailed access information and a full list of Open Caption and Subtitled screenings **visit [mqff.com.au/access](http://mqff.com.au/access)**

Contact **03 9662 4147** or **[info@mqff.com.au](mailto:info@mqff.com.au)**

Standby Queues operate for sold-out sessions from 30 minutes prior to the start times. Visit MQFF information desk at the venue.

**Passes:** Valid for the pass holder only for 1 standard session per screening time until pass allocation is exhausted (excludes special events).

**All-in Pass:** The All-in Pass (members only) is valid for all sessions (1 standard session per screening time) plus special events including Opening & Closing Nights.

**MQFF Membership:** Membership is a great way to support queer cinema plus it offers a heap of benefits including discounted tickets, priority access to cinemas and free member screenings throughout the year.

Visit **[mqff.com.au/membership](http://mqff.com.au/membership)** for more information.

**Join in:** Loved a film? Rate it online or by using the MQFF app for your chance to decide the best of the fest!

## #MQFF2019

Subscribe to MQFF eNews for updates, giveaways & special offers  
For full Terms and Conditions visit **[mqff.com.au/ticketing](http://mqff.com.au/ticketing)**

# Festival Planner

Time	Film	Session	Venue
Thursday March 14			
7:30pm	Opening Night, Papi Chulo	19001	V
Friday March 15			
6:00pm	Just Friends	19101	A
6:15pm	Eva and Candela	19201	A
7:00pm	Rafiki	19701	V
7:15pm	Boys	19501	V
7:45pm	Kiss Me	19102	A
8:15pm	My Big Gay Italian Wedding	19202	A
9:00pm	Carmen and Lola	19702	V
9:15pm	Canary	19601	V
9:45pm	Daddy Issues	19103	A
10:15pm	Hooking Up	19203	A
Saturday March 16			
12:00pm	Youth Shorts	19401	N
1:00pm	Man Made	19301	N
1:30pm	Life in the Doghouse	19402	N
3:00pm	Night Comes On	19302	N
3:15pm	The Ice King	19403	N
4:45pm	1985	19303	N
5:00pm	Scotty and the Secret History of Hollywood	19104	A
5:00pm	Making Montgomery Clift	19404	N
5:15pm	Girl on Girl Shorts	19204	A
6:45pm	Guy on Guy Shorts	19602	V
7:15pm	Anchor and Hope	19105	A
7:00pm	Wild Nights with Emily	19703	V
7:30pm	Tucked	19205	A
9:00pm	The Blonde One	19603	V
9:15pm	Sauvage	19206	A
9:15pm	And Breathe Normally	19704	V
9:30pm	Knife+Heart	19106	A
Sunday March 17			
12:30pm	Episodic Shorts	19304	N
12:45pm	Buddies	19405	N
2:15pm	Euphoria	19305	N
2:30pm	A Kid Like Jake	19406	N
3:00pm	We're all in This Together	19804	A
3:30pm	Pitch, Pleez!	19005	V (Roc's Bar)
4:00pm	Becoming Colleen	19107	A
4:15pm	The Marriage	19207	A
5:45pm	Silvana	19502	V
6:15pm	The Heiresses	19108	A
6:00pm	José	19705	V



6:30pm	Sorry Angel	19208	A
8:15pm	Dykes, Camera, Action	19109	A
8:00pm	Allure	19503	V
8:15pm	Mario	19504	V
9:30pm	Sodom	19209	A

## Monday March 18

6:00pm	Queer First Nations	19110	A
6:15pm	Sunburn	19210	A
6:15pm	The Happy Prince	19706	V
6:30pm	Alone in the Game	19505	V
8:15pm	Night Comes On	19111	A
8:30pm	Mapplethorpe	19211	A
8:45pm	Eva and Candela	19506	V
9:00pm	Marilyn	19707	V

## Tuesday March 19

6:00pm	Quiet Rebel	19112	A
6:15pm	Guy on Guy Shorts	19212	A
6:30pm	Two Weeks	19306	N
8:00pm	Transformations	19113	A
8:15pm	Canary	19213	A
8:30pm	My Big Gay Italian Wedding	19307	N

## Wednesday March 20

6:30pm	QUIT Victoria Panel	19803	A
6:30pm	The Heiresses	19407	N
6:30pm	1985	19507	V
6:45pm	Antonio Lopez	19308	N
8:30pm	Tucked	19708	V
8:45pm	I Miss You When I See You	19309	N

## Thursday March 21

6:30pm	Girl On Girl Shorts	19409	N
6:45pm	TransMilitary	19310	N
7:30pm	Centrepiece, Bright Colors and Bold Patterns	19002	A
8:30pm	Rafiki	19410	N
8:45pm	When the Beat Drops	19311	N

## Friday March 22

6:00pm	Mario	19214	A
6:15pm	Desire and Resistance	19114	A
6:30pm	Dykes, Camera, Action	19508	V
6:45pm	Mapplethorpe	19604	V
8:15pm	Daddy Issues	19115	A
8:30pm	Hooking Up	19215	A
8:30pm	L'Animale	19509	V
9:15pm	Sodom	19605	V
10:15pm	Shakedown	19116	A
10:30pm	Knife+Heart	19216	A

## Saturday March 23

12:30pm	Everybody's Talking About Jamie	19312	N
1:00pm	Wildings Workshop	19801	A
3:00pm	Scotty and the Secret History of Hollywood	19411	N
3:15pm	Love, Cecil	19313	N
5:00pm	Malila: The Farewell Flower	19117	A
5:00pm	Sorry Angel	19314	N
5:15pm	Wild Nights with Emily	19217	A
5:15pm	Kiss Me	19412	N
6:30pm	Just Friends	19606	V
6:45pm	Laws of Desire	19709	V
7:00pm	Boys	19118	A
7:15pm	Comedy Shorts	19218	A
8:30pm	Sauvage	19607	V
8:45pm	Sunburn	19710	V
9:00pm	Allure	19119	A
9:15pm	The Blonde One	19219	A

## Sunday March 24

1:00pm	Every Act of Life	19413	N
1:15pm	Anchor and Hope	19315	N
2:00pm	Wildings Panel	19802	A
2:45pm	The Happy Prince	19220	A
3:00pm	Documentary Shorts	19120	A
3:00pm	Marilyn	19414	N
3:30pm	Carmen and Lola	19316	N
5:15pm	Australian Shorts & Awards	19004	A
7:30pm	Closing Night, Jeremiah Terminator LeRoy	19003	A

## Monday March 25

Watch  again.

6:15pm	Special Encore Screening	19510	V
6:30pm	Special Encore Screening	19608	V
8:30pm	Special Encore Screening	19511	V
8:45pm	Special Encore Screening	19609	V

Encore Screenings, proudly presented by ME Bank

V = Village Jam Factory  
N = Cinema Nova  
A = ACMI

Visit [mqff.com.au](http://mqff.com.au) for more information