

VENUES AND GETTING THERE

VILLAGE CINEMAS JAM FACTORY
500 Chapel Street, South Yarra VIC 3141

THE CAPITOL
113 Swanston Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

CINEMA NOVA
380 Lygon Street, Carlton VIC 3053

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

JAM FACTORY – Roc's Bar

CAPITOL – The Carlton Club

CINEMA NOVA – Nova Bar

EACH LOUNGE HAS UNIQUE TICKET HOLDER DISCOUNTS. SEE [MOFF.COM.AU/VENUES](#) FOR OUR SPECIAL EVENT PROGRAMMING.

HOW TO GET TO MQFF ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

VILLAGE JAM FACTORY
TRAIN – South Yarra Station
TRAM – Route 78 or 58

THE CAPITOL
TRAIN – Flinders Street Station
TRAM – Any Swanston Street or St Kilda Road Tram to stop 11. Trams 11, 12 or 48 to stop 5.

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

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. Visit [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, to book a wheelchair space, or to advise us of your needs please call 03 9662 4147 or email [info@mqff.com.au](#). Companion Card tickets and wheelchair spaces are currently unable to be booked online.

TICKETS

OPENING NIGHT
Full \$85/Concession \$72/Member \$68

CLOSING NIGHT
Full \$40/Concession \$34/Member \$32

CENTREPIECE
Full \$32/Concession \$28/Member \$26

SINGLE TICKETS
Full \$21.30/Concession \$18.30/Member or Groups (10+) \$17.30

ALL-IN PASS
\$359 Member (includes all Gala Events)

MOFF MEMBERSHIP
\$68 Full/\$58 Concession/\$47 Under 30

PASSES
3 Film Pass
\$59 Full / \$51 Concession / \$49 Member

5 Film Pass
\$95 Full / \$82 Concession / \$77 Member

7 Film Pass
\$130 Full / \$111 Concession / \$105 Member

10 Film Pass
\$177 Full / \$152 Concession / \$143 Member

HOW TO BUY TICKETS

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.

ONLINE AT [MOFF.COM.AU](#)

AT THE BOX OFFICE
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. Please note, due to the closure of ACMI in 2020, there will be no MQFF Box Office at ACMI.

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

CONTACT – 03 9662 4147 or [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.

MOFF 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 [MOFF.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!

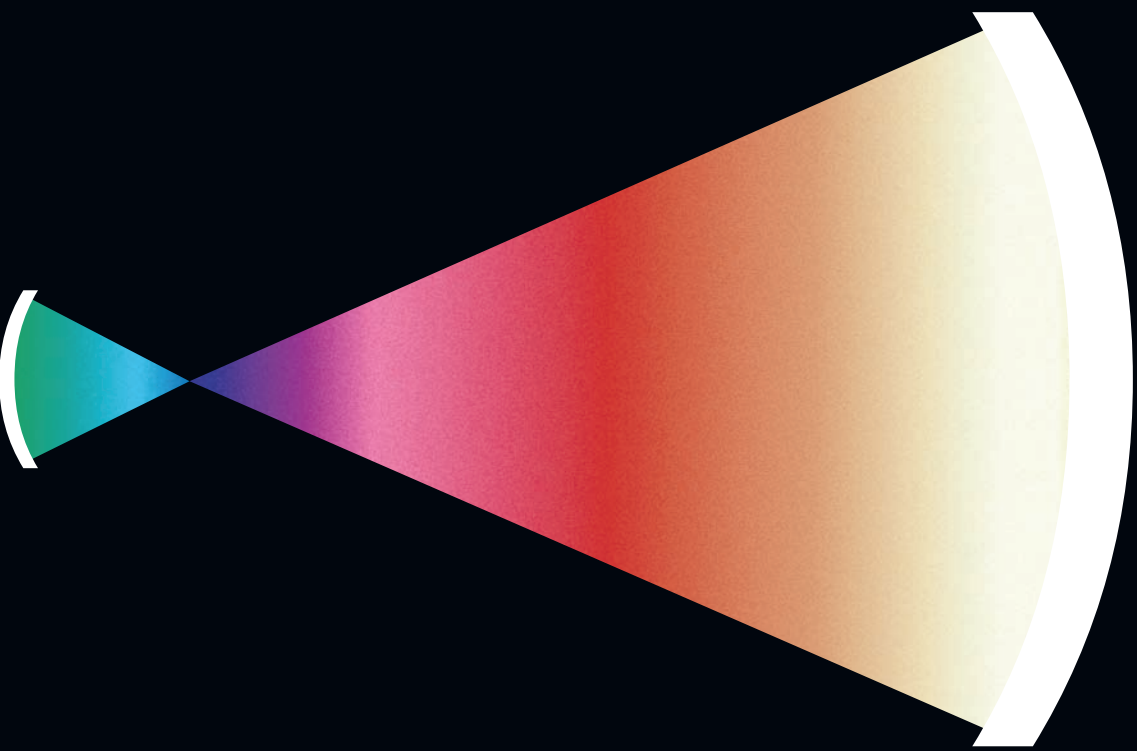
SUBSCRIBE TO MOFF ENIGMAS FOR UPDATES, GIVEAWAYS & SPECIAL OFFERS. FOR FULL TERMS AND CONDITIONS VISIT [MOFF.COM.AU/TICKETING](#)

FESTIVAL PLANNER



WE'RE MELBOURNE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL IN 12-23 MARCH 2020

STORIES EVERY COLOUR



C.ST CHAPEL STREET precinct

Chapel Street Precinct proudly supports

30 years of Melbourne Queer Film Festival



CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF QUEER FILM

WE'RE IN 12-23 MARCH 2020

MELBOURNE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL

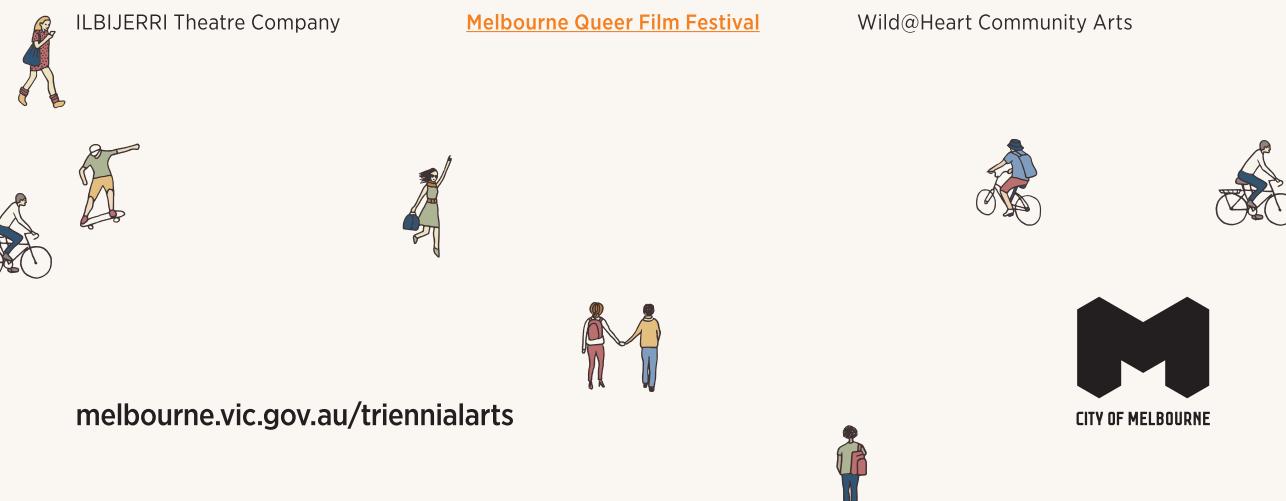
STORIES EVERY COLOUR



MELBOURNE IS A CREATIVE CITY

The City of Melbourne proudly supports major and emerging arts organisations through our 2018–20 Triennial Arts Grants Program

African Music and Cultural Festival	KINGS Artist-Run	Melbourne Symphony Orchestra
Aphids	Koorie Heritage Trust	Melbourne Writers Festival
Arts Access Victoria	La Mama	Multicultural Arts Victoria
Australian Art Orchestra	Liquid Architecture	Next Wave Festival
Australian Centre for Contemporary Art	Lucy Guerin Inc.	Polyglot Theatre
BLINDSIDE	Malthouse Theatre	Speak Percussion
Chamber Made	Melbourne Fringe	St Martins Youth Arts Centre
Circus Oz	Melbourne International Arts Festival	Victorian Youth Symphony Orchestra
Craft Victoria	Melbourne International Comedy Festival	West Space
Emerging Writers' Festival	Melbourne International Film Festival	The Wheeler Centre
Human Rights Arts & Film Festival	Melbourne International Jazz Festival	Wild@Heart Community Arts
ILBIJERRI Theatre Company	Melbourne Queer Film Festival	



melbourne.vic.gov.au/triennialarts



WELCOME TO MQFF30



SALLY CAPP
LORD MAYOR
OF MELBOURNE

The City of Melbourne recognises that LGBTIQ representation in film is very important. That's why we're proud to be a long-standing principal partner of the fabulous Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF), and support our queer community.

Every year, MQFF serves up a world-class program of the best queer cinema to thousands of movie buffs. The festival shines a rainbow of light on queer stories, histories and lives, and plays a vital role in celebrating and advocating for this diverse community.



MAXWELL CRATTON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER

The Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF), has sure come a long way from humble beginnings to become what it is today — Australia's oldest and largest LGBTIQ film festival and celebration of the moving image. It is also Melbourne's second largest film festival.

On the back of two consecutive record-breaking festivals (record box offices in 2018 and 2019, and an all-time record attendance in 2019), this year we will present over 140 sessions, comprising of feature films, shorts, panels, and other opportunities for engagement.

We are again screening at the Village Cinemas Jam Factory as well as Cinema Nova. Furthermore in 2020, we are also delighted to be screening at The Capitol,



SPIRO ECONOMOPOULOS
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

30 years of queer cinema and 30 years of MQFF. The two have become synonymous with each other.

Programming MQFF for 2020 I've been reflecting on the festival's history and the showcase of incredible cinema it has presented over the years from its first opening night film *Longtime Companion*, right up to the present with our galvanizing opening night film this year, *Gay Chorus Deep South*. In that 30 years queer Cinema has come of age and it's truly exciting to see as the Program Director where the new queer voices are coming from.

This year, we also celebrate a landmark achievement, MQFF's 30th anniversary as the largest and oldest queer festival in the southern hemisphere. Film-lovers will be spoilt for choice with a glittering line-up of cinematic treats, including more than 140 feature films, short films and documentaries, plus workshops, panels and more.

The City of Melbourne is also delighted to present the Award for Best Australian Short Film - a wonderful way to recognise our local and emerging filmmaking talent.

The festival is a wonderful way to explore the magic of film, so I encourage you to check out the program, grab some popcorn and make a night of it.

Congratulations to the organisers on another wonderful festival and happy birthday to MQFF.

the iconic cinema located on Swanston Street, right in the heart of Melbourne City. Our curated program is conveniently accessible right across Melbourne.

Throughout our 30th year, MQFF will be screening across regional Victoria. We will also be holding our second annual MQFF eXtra (Mini-Festival) later in 2020. These will be in addition to our Signature (Member) Screenings and other offerings. Our year-round program will enable us to engage with more audiences, more often.

MQFF would not be possible without our generous sponsors/partners, supporters, donors and Sweethearts, MQFF volunteers, members, you the audience and everyone and anyone who has contributed. A special thanks to the Board of Directors, led by Scott Herron and Molly Whelan, for its guidance.

Turning 30 is a very exciting time. Whilst we look back on our roaring 20s with great memories, we look forward with great anticipation of the adventures still to come. I trust that you will have a wonderful time experiencing what MQFF has to offer in 2020. See you around.

Over the years these films have projected on the big screen for us, our desires, loves, joys and fears. No doubt queer cinema in itself is a political act and being visible is our rally cry. So that new cinema that we see coming from countries where being gay is still a criminal act or the incredible array of films screening at the festival this year which give voice to the LGBTIQ+ asylum seekers looking for a safe place to call home, are timely reminders that MQFF's place in the festival landscape (and in our lives) is as vital as ever.

It's not all serious however and even though we are turning 30, we haven't forgotten to have fun, to fall in love (or lust). Comedies like *The Shiny Shrimps*, *An Almost Ordinary Summer*, *The Sympathy Card* and romantic dramas like *The Strong Ones*, *Tell it to the Bees* and *Unsound* just go to show that fighting, dancing and loving all have their place at MQFF.

SPONSORS

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UPCOMING SCENES

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TICKETS

Booking fees range from \$2.40 to \$7, depending on booking total.

OPENING NIGHT

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

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REFUNDS POLICY

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2 hours before a session commences and incur fees (\$1.50 online / \$3 at the box office per ticket). Visit mqff.com.au for full terms and conditions.

ACCESS

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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.

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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 endeavor 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 info@mqff.com.au



WE'RE THOUGHT PROVOKING

Get ready to be moved, challenged and inspired with this selection of films that will leave you thinking about the issues facing LGBTIQ communities long after the credits have ended.

UNSETTLED: SEEKING REFUGE IN AMERICA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 12

WHITE LIE

MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 33

TREMORS

PAGE 34

THE GROUND BENEATH MY FEET

PAGE 41

XY CHELSEA

(FILM IMAGE ABOVE) MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 50

WANT TO SEE ALL THESE FILMS? CRAB A FIVE FILM PASS AND SAVE.



WE'RE PLAYFUL

Grab a friend (or ten!) and strap yourself in for laughs, tears and a lot of cheers in this selection of films that are made to be enjoyed in a cinema with your queer friends and allies. Don't forget to use #MQFF30 when you are Instagramming your pics from the night.

THE SHINY SHRIMPS

MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 19

AN ALMOST ORDINARY SUMMER

(FILM IMAGE ABOVE) PAGE 19

YOU DON'T NOMI

PAGE 52

THE SYMPATHY CARD

MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 18

COMEDY SHORTS

PAGE 62

WANT TO SEE ALL THESE FILMS? CRAB A FIVE FILM PASS AND SAVE.



WE'RE UNMISSABLE

Whether you are seeing as many films as you can or are short on time, these are the films that everyone will be talking about at our 30th festival. Get in quick, because they will sell out.

THE STRONG ONES

MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 22

THE TWO OF US

MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 16

I MISS YOU (TU ME MANQUES)

MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 36

TELL IT TO THE BEES

(FILM IMAGE ABOVE) PAGE 36

RIALTO

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE, PAGE 28

WANT TO SEE ALL THESE FILMS? CRAB A FIVE FILM PASS AND SAVE.



WE'RE ADVENTUROUS

Feeling daring? Here's a selection of films that push the boundaries of LGBTI+ storytelling and filmmaking. We suggest heading to the festival hub for a drink (or two) after these films because you will want to discuss them.

DON'T LOOK DOWN

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE, PAGE 30

BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET

(FILM IMAGE ABOVE) PAGE 43

MEN OF HARD SKIN

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE, PAGE 38

YOUNG HUNTER

MELBOURNE PREMIERE, PAGE 30

MAKE UP

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE, PAGE 28

WANT TO SEE ALL THESE FILMS? CRAB A FIVE FILM PASS AND SAVE.

OPENING NIGHT

COME AND CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF THE 30TH MELBOURNE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL
AND JOIN US AFTER THE FILM FOR OUR OPENING NIGHT PARTY AT VILLAGE JAM FACTORY.



GAY CHORUS DEEP SOUTH

**WITNESS THE HEALING
AND ENLIGHTENMENT
OF CHORUS MEMBERS, SOME
OF THEM BEARING SCARS
FROM THEIR OPPRESSIVE RED-
STATE UPRISING.**
— SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

In 2016 the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus (SFGMC) embarked on a tour of the American South to bring their unique and powerful voices of love and acceptance to an area deeply divided by anti-LGBTQ+ laws. From Mississippi to Tennessee, North and South Carolina, the choir is joined by The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir on a mission to overcome prejudice and fear.

Led by the charismatic Chorus Conductor Dr. Tim Seelig, who was ejected from his Texas Church when he came out as gay, the film follows a number of chorus members who fled the South and whose return brings back many painful memories. Performing in religious institutions, whose doors are often barred to LGBTQ+ people, the choirs are determined to bring the house down with their magnificent voices.

A winner of countless Film Festival Audience Awards, *Gay Chorus Deep South* is a stirring film that shows the positive effects of human connection and understanding, and the undeniable power of music.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, AT 7.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — David Charles Rodrigues,
USA, 2019, 100 mins



Your stories give ME direction.

We understand the power of belonging
— on screen and at work — which is why
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mebank.com.au/proudlyme

CENTREPIECE BROUGHT TO YOU BY UNITED AIRLINES

JOIN US BEFORE THE SCREENING FOR DRINKS AND CANAPES
IN THE CAPITOL THEATRE FOYER.



AND THEN WE DANCED

AND THEN WE DANCED
IS A SENSUAL EXPLORATION
OF IDENTITY THAT
PULSATES WITH DESIRE.
— THE DAILY MIRROR

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, AT 7.00PM
THE CAPITOL

DIR — Levan Akin. Sweden, Georgia,
2019, 106 mins

COURTESY — Totem Films
GEORGIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY



Teenage Merab has spent his life determined to be a lead dancer in the National Georgian Ensemble. When handsome and rebellious newcomer, Iralki enters the company, Merab is sent spinning. Not only has he a rival for the position he covets, but romantic feelings are ignited and in a country that strictly forbids homosexuality, trouble is just around the corner.

Passionate and deeply romantic, *And Then We Danced* has overtaken the hearts of audiences since its premiere at the Cannes Film Festival, winning prizes around the world ever since. Submit to the allure of this life-affirming film and you'll be dancing out of the cinema.



Let your true colours fly.



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HEADLINER

JOIN US WITH DRINKS ON ARRIVAL FOR THIS SPECIAL SCREENING OF **UNSETTLED: SEEKING REFUGE IN AMERICA** PROUDLY PRESENTED BY THE ASYLUM SEEKERS RESOURCE CENTRE.



UNSETTLED: SEEKING REFUGE IN AMERICA

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 6.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Tom Shepard, USA, 2019, 84 mins

COURTESY — Film Collaborative

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY



Winner of the Grand Jury Award at L.A. Outfest for Outstanding Documentary Feature, *Unsettled* is a powerful and emotionally charged plea for acceptance that follows four LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and refugees who have fled from persecution and violence in their home countries.

Arriving in San Francisco are Cheyenne and Mari from Angola, Subhi from Syria and Junior from Congo, who try to navigate the challenges — bureaucratic, societal and personal — to find a safe and secure place in their new homeland. From the lows (struggling to find protective housing in one of the USA's most notorious rental markets) to the highs (one of the four wins an LGBTQ+ Trailblazer Award resulting in international press), *Unsettled* puts a human face to one of the most urgent crises of our times. The resilience and strength of these inspiring survivors make for captivating viewing.

CLOSING NIGHT

JOIN US AFTER THE SCREENING FOR DRINKS, MUSIC AND CELEBRATIONS IN THE CAPITOL THEATRE FOYER.



BIT

BIT IS MUCH MORE THAN A TYPICAL GORE FILM, IT BITES WITH ROBUST FEMININE FORCE AND LEAVES A NOTABLE MARK OF REPRESENTATION.
— FILM INQUIRY

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, AT 7.30PM
THE CAPITOL

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Brad Michael Elmore, USA, 2019, 90 mins

COURTESY — Provocator

First things first, *Bit* is the queer answer to *The Lost Boys* we have all been waiting for and so much more. Lauren (played by Nicole Maines from TV's *Supergirl*) is your typical 18-year-old, restless, bored and looking to escape her life at home. When an opportunity to join her brother in LA comes up, Lauren jumps at the chance. Not long in the City of Angels Lauren is lured into the posse of a cliquey gang of queer feminist vampires, led by the charismatic Duke (Diana Hopper), who are hellbent on ridding LA of 'problematic' men. Their only rule for joining this gnarly gang of women is — 'No. Fucking. Boys!' A rule you break at your own peril as we discover in the bloody opening scene.

This sharp, fun and wickedly subversive take on the vampire genre has a lot to love, most of all the casting of transgender actor Nicole Maines, whose role is a great step forward in representation.

AUSTRALIAN SHOWCASE

MOFF IS PROUD TO PRESENT AND SUPPORT AUSTRALIAN QUEER
FILMMAKING TALENT AND STORIES



UN SOUND

THESE ARE OPEN
CAPTION SCREENINGS 

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 8.15PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, AT 3.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE
DIR — Ian Watson, Australia, 2019,
88 mins, MA 15+
COURTESY — Filmink Presents

Noah, a young guitarist in search for inspiration, quits his tour to return to his estranged mother's house. Unable to deal with their complicated relationship, Noah seeks distraction at bars and nightclubs. One night, led by the strong beats coming from a party, Noah enters the community Deaf Centre where he meets Finn, a deaf trans man in the early stages of his transition, who DJs and organizes parties at the Centre.

Their mutual love for music unite them. Finn finds in Noah the support and understanding he's been looking for. Noah finds in Finn the inspiration he needs for his music and a beautiful relationship develops.

This Australian feature provides a delicate representation of love, respect, empathy and acceptance and features singer Christine Anu in a supporting role.

AUSTRALIAN SHOWCASE

MOFF IS PROUD TO PRESENT AND SUPPORT AUSTRALIAN QUEER
FILMMAKING TALENT AND STORIES



SEQUIN IN A BLUE ROOM

**SEQUIN IN A BLUE ROOM
FEELS VERY MUCH OF THE MOMENT,
BUT IT'S UPHOLSTERED BY AN
IMPRESSIVE COMMAND OF GOOD
OLD-FASHIONED CRAFT.**
— HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 7.00PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY


WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 6.45PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Samuel Van Grinsven, Australia,
2019, 80 mins
COURTESY — AFTRS

**AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST FEATURE,
2019 SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL**

This remarkable debut feature from young Australian director Samuel Van Grinsven follows 16-year-old Sequin (his online handle) as he navigates the hedonistic world of anonymous hook-ups, sex parties, twinkies and daddies in Sydney. When Sequin unwittingly gains a stalker, he realises he's gotten in too deep. Erotic and unnerving in equal parts, *Sequin in a Blue Room* is a fresh take on the queer sex and dating scene, and a truly intoxicating ride.

SCREENS WITH STUART
DIR — Andrew Blogg, Australia, 2019, 9 mins



TWO OF US

**AN ENTIRELY UNIQUE AND UNIQUELY
VITAL LESBIAN LOVE STORY.**
— VARIETY

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 7.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 6.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Filippo Meneghetti, France,
Luxembourg, Belgium, 2019, 95 mins

COURTESY — Vendetta Films

FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Two retired women, Nina and Madeleine, have been carrying on a secret relationship for decades. Everybody, including Madeleine's family, thinks they are simply neighbours, sharing the top floor of their building. They come and go between their two apartments, enjoying the affection and pleasures of daily life and are in the planning stages of selling up and moving away together, far away from their families' prying eyes. That is until an unforeseen event turns their relationship upside down and threatens to expose their secret.

Two of Us is a deeply satisfying and at times tense exploration of a long term relationship compromised by fear and small mindedness. Held together by a pair of wonderful performances from leads Barbara Sukowa and Martine Chevallier, who convey with ease a long term and tender love affair held strong by an unbreakable bond.



THE SYMPATHY CARD

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 8.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 6.15PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — Brendan Boogie, USA, 2019, 94 mins
COURTESY — Broken Gates Films

Josie is socially awkward and can't quite seem to be able to meet the right woman. Following the suggestion of her sister-in-law, she joins a lesbian soccer team where she meets Emma. Despite all their mishaps, the two start dating and get married. However, Emma has been diagnosed with cancer and makes it her mission to guarantee that Josie won't be alone after she passes away. Enter the Sympathy Card rule. Although Josie does not like the idea very much, she attempts to overcome her social anxiety and meet other women. The situation gets complicated however when Josie meets Shioban and the prospect of Josie moving on becomes all too real.

Given its potentially heavy subject matter, *The Sympathy Card* surprisingly provides a light and often hilarious view of relationships, love, loss and bad first dates.

LOADED WITH LAUGH-OUT-LOUD HUMOUR.
— THE FILM DAILY



T11 INCOMPLETE

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 6.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 8.15PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Suzanne Guacci, USA, 2019, 106 mins
COURTESY — Aspire Films

Home care nurse Kate (Karen Sillas) is struggling to make ends meet as well as trying to fix her broken relationship with her son (Zachary Booth). Her life takes a surprising turn when she meets paraplegic Laura (Kristen Renton), who is half her age, a recovering alcoholic, and her patient. Kate makes one bad decision that threatens to make everything fall apart. What can help mend it?

Made with many cast and crew members with disability, including director Suzanne Guacci (*Stuff*, MQFF 2015), *T11 Incomplete* sensitively explores the unlikely romance between a carer and her patient.

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY



THE SHINY SHRIMPS

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 9.00PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 7.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Cédric Le Gallo, Maxime Govare, France, 100 mins
COURTESY — Charades

FRENCH & ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

When straight Olympic swimmer, Matthias makes a homophobic slur on TV, as penance he is forced to coach The Shiny Shrimps, a gay water polo team made up of a ragtag bunch of misfits. With the Gay Games in Croatia just around the corner, the team sees the perfect opportunity to meet a bunch of hot, fit guys (with the additional benefit of competing in an international sporting competition!). But first they must qualify, otherwise their vision of gaytopia will just be a dream.

With more guys in speedos than a year's worth of DNA magazines, *The Shiny Shrimps* was a huge success in France and is bound to be the feel good hit of the festival.

THIS EXUBERANTLY FEEL-GOOD CHARMER IS A NON-STOP BLAST OF WILD CAMPERY.
— RADIO TIMES



AN ALMOST ORDINARY SUMMER

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 6.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, AT 1.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Simone Godano, Italy, 2019, 100 mins
COURTESY — Palace Films
ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Two very different families are brought together under the same roof when the patriarchs of the families announce — much to the shock of their grown children — that they are in love and getting married. What ensues is a delightful romantic comedy that throws in for good measure culture clash and class warfare as the rival families try not to implode. It all helps of course that this all takes place in a spectacular cliffside villa in coastal Gaeta and the wonderful cast includes Alessandro Gassmann and Fabrizio Bentivoglio as the two men who have fallen in love despite their families' blatant animosity. With the wedding only weeks away, you can bet on chaos, catastrophe and hijinks being the guest of honour at this seemingly ordinary summer.

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THE STRONG ONES (LOS FUERTES)

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 6.30PM
THE CAPITOL

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 9.15PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR – Omar Zúñiga, Chile, 2019, 98 mins

COURTESY – Meikincine Entertainment

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Lucas travels from the big city to visit his sister and her partner who live in a remote seaside town in southern Chile. In front of the ocean and the fog, he meets Antonio, a handsome boatswain for a local fishing crew. When an intense romance grows between them, their strength, their independence and their adulthood become immovable in front of the tide. Soon the two men must face some hard decisions on where their paths will lead them and if their connection is strong enough.

Based on the short film *San Cristobal* (screened at MQFF 2016) and featuring the same two leads, Antonio Altamirano and Samuel González, *The Strong Ones* is an earthy, sensual and moving romantic drama.



BONNIE & BONNIE

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 6.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 8.45PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Ali Hakim, Germany, 2019, 90 mins

COURTESY — Edition Salzgeber

GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A lesbian twist on the infamous story of criminal lovers Bonnie & Clyde, wannabe dancer Yara feels suffocated by her strict Muslim father and older brother Bekim. She escapes to the streets to hang out with her graffiti-spraying mates and acts up whenever she can. By day she also plays the good daughter, working in the family store. Everything changes when she first spots biker jacket-wearing rebel and bar girl Kiki. Dared by her buddies to grab hold of Kiki's hand, Yara gets a whole lot more than she bargained for from the silly stunt. But what starts off as a fierce fight soon spins into the fires of first true love, opening up a world of pain when tradition, repression and homophobia come crashing in. As the girls take matters into their own hands, stepping outside of the law, a thrilling chase ensues that might just prove to be a one-way ticket.



ZEN IN THE ICE RIFT

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 1.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Margherita Ferri, Italy,

2019, 87 mins, U15+

COURTESY — Media Luna

ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

16 year old tomboy and hockey ace Maia, prefers to go by the name Zen. Growing up in a small village in the beautiful but rough Italian Apennine range has meant Zen's androgynous looks and rowdy behaviour have drawn unwelcome attention in this close knit community. When Vanessa, the popular girlfriend of the hockey team captain, comes to Zen for a request to hide away in their family's lodge, the two seemingly opposites begin to form a connection as they embark on a journey of sexual exploration and self-discovery.

This beautifully shot and acted debut feature from Margherita Ferri is a tender and complex coming-of-age drama about gender identity and sexuality.



ROMÁN

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 7.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — Majo Staffolani, Argentina,

2018, 62 mins

COURTESY — Majo Staffolani

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Román is a middle aged married Real Estate Agent living his best life or so he thinks. When he agrees to help one of his daughter's friends, Lucas, find an apartment, Roman's ordinary and untroubled existence takes a dramatic swerve into the unknown. Lucas takes an interest in the unsuspecting Román and makes a move which leads both into a sex-driven relationship full of fervent encounters and stolen trysts. This recent sexual surge and discovery for Román forces him to step out of his comfort zone and take a walk on the wild side, questioning everything he held solid in his life. Román is a breezy delight that takes the familiar path of a man grappling with a midlife crisis and turns it into a joyful ode to self-discovery. It's never too late.

SCREENS WITH ST AUGUSTINE

DIR — Thomas Wilson-White, Australia,

2019, 17 mins



WALKING WITH SHADOWS

MONDAY, MARCH 16, AT 8.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, AT 3.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Aoife O'Kelly, UK, Nigeria, 2019, 90 mins

COURTESY — Rushlake Media

Based on Jude Dibia's groundbreaking 2005 novel, *Walking with Shadows* is a powerful drama about a married Nigerian man grappling with his homosexuality and the seismic ramifications it causes amongst his family and community. The story kicks off when Adrian's wife Ada receives a mysterious phone call from a man who alleges that her husband has cheated on her with multiple men. Confronted by her, it pushes Adrian and Ada on a journey of self-discovery.

Walking with Shadows throws a spotlight on the LGBTIQ+ community in Nigeria and asks bigger questions around the interpretations of love within Christianity. Furthermore, it presents an intriguing conflict between homosexuality, religion, love and community.

THE STRUGGLE TO BE TRUE TO HIS DESIRES NUDGES THE FILM TOWARDS BECOMING A NIGERIAN MOONLIGHT.
— SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

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-off chapel

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RIALTO

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 8.30PM
THE CAPITOL

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 6.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — Peter Mackie Burns, Ireland, UK, 90 mins

COURTESY — Madman Entertainment

Life for 46-year-old Colm seems comfortable — he works on the Dublin docks and is happily married with two kids. But after his father's death, his life is spun off-balance and he starts seeing 19-year-old rent boy, Jay. This secret life forces Colm to be withdrawn from his family but with Jay he's open and emotionally raw. However, for Jay, who has a young child, it's purely financial, but the sex and conversations provide a cathartic release for Colm. But for how long can he keep continuing his reckless behaviour?

Premiering at the Venice Film Festival, *Rialto*, the second film from Peter Mackie Burns (*Daphne*), is a compelling story of a man whose life is coming apart at the seams. An honest and unflinching modern queer classic.

RIALTO BUILDS AN INTIMATE PORTRAIT OF MASCULINE CRISIS, ILLUMINATED BY TWO EXTRAORDINARY CENTRAL PERFORMANCES.
— VARIETY

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MAKE UP

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 6.15PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 7.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — Claire Oakley, UK, 2019, 86 mins

COURTESY — Protagonist Pictures

Ruth arrives at a sleepy seaside caravan park to be with her boyfriend Tom who who works at a local arcade. Quickly settling in and starting work herself at a laundromat, Ruth begins to suspect that Tom is fooling around behind her back with a mysterious red-headed woman.

Into her orbit comes Jade, a free spirited and confident woman who Ruth initially suspects is her romantic rival but soon the two young women find themselves attracted to each other.

Loaded with atmosphere, tension and simmering desire, Claire Oakley's bewitching debut feature is a mysterious, sensual and bold coming out film like no other that will keep you enthralled and guessing right until the end.

STRADDLING POETIC REALISM, BODY HORROR AND LESBIAN ROMANCE, CLAIRE OAKLEY'S MAZY COMING-OF-AGE PSYCHODRAMA IS CORCEOUS AND INVENTIVE.
— SIGHT & SOUND



DON'T LOOK DOWN

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 4.00PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 8.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIRS — Olivier Ducastel and Jacques Martineau, France, 2019, 90 mins

COURTESY — Pascale Ramonda

FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

After sell-out sessions of *Paris 05:59 Theo & Hugo* at MQFF 2017, directors Olivier Ducastel and Jacques Martineau return with their latest feature, *Don't Look Down*.

In a stylish Parisian apartment, five strangers — a woman and four men — assemble to enact revenge on their former lover. While the man in question remains unseen in the next room, the strangers enjoy an eccentric dinner party as they begin to reveal the many ways he manipulated and humiliated them, exploring fantasy and desire, truth and lies. A visually hypnotic, sensual and unpredictable drama served with a large helping of schadenfreude and provocation.

A SEDUCTIVE, MYSTERIOUS LITTLE FILM THAT PULL THE AUDIENCE IN.
— SHADOWS ON THE WALL



YOUNG HUNTER

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 6.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 8.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Marco Berger, Argentina, 2020, 101 mins

COURTESY — Matchbox Films

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A firm favourite of MQFF, regulars will be very familiar with the languorous, lust-filled look at glistening male bodies on display in Argentinian director Marco Berger's celebrated movies, from *Hawaii*, to *Taekwondo*, to last year's achingly sensual highlight *The Blonde One*.

At first glance, *Young Hunter* looks to be more of the enticing same from the Berlin International Film Festival Teddy Award-winner and Cannes Film Festival nominee. Restless 15-year-old Ezequiel, cruising the sweaty city streets for fun during a sticky summer, catches the eye of an older, tattooed skater boy.

But make no mistake, this button-pushing provocation marks a startling evolution in Berger's work that takes us to a much darker place. As their ambiguous dance around one another draws a horny and misguided Ezequiel into a predatory web, this equal parts riveting and unsettling film will leave you gobsmacked.



LIZZIE

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 7.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 8.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

DIR — Craig William Macneill, USA, 2017, 105 mins

COURTESY — Eagle Entertainment

The infamous turn of the century murder case is given a queer and feminist update in this riveting and charged psychological thriller.

Chloë Sevigny stars as the accused murderer Lizzie Borden, a woman accused of cold-bloodedly slaughtering her father and stepmother with an axe. What this new version of the story speculates on is the complicity of the housemaid Maggie, played here by Kristen Stewart. The blossoming friendship and subsequent romance between the two women becomes the catalysts for Borden fighting back against her abusive father, indifferent step-mother and in general the repressive roles women of the time found themselves trapped by.

Featuring stellar performances from Sevigny and Stewart, *Lizzie* is a dark and compelling fable of repression, desire and bloody rebellion.

TAKES ITS TITLE CHARACTER OUT OF FOLK HISTORY AND REWRITES HER AS A QUEER PROTO-FEMINIST BATTLING AGAINST THE WORST EXCESSES OF PATRIARCHAL POWER.
— IRISH TIMES



BABY JANE

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 5.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 8.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — Katja Gauriloff, Finland, 2019, 93 mins

COURTESY — Level K

FINNISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Moving from a small town to the big-city-bright-lights of Helsinki, Jonna plunges head first into a nightlife of drinking and new adventures. One night she meets Piki, whose confidence and swagger hint at a wealth of life experience. The attraction is electric and the two women embark on a passionate affair, with Piki introducing her younger partner to her circle of queer friends, including her ex, Bossa. Piki exposes Jonna to a whole new world of sexual pleasure (S&M for starters) and takes her out drinking and dancing, but cracks appear when Jonna asks why Piki only ventures outside her house when drunk and why Bossa keeps coming over to drop off groceries and clean laundry...

Based on a novel by award winning author Sofi Oksanen, *Baby Jane* is a carnal, psychosexual melodrama.



SPIRAL

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 9.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 8.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Kurt David Harder, Canada, 2019, 90 mins

COURTESY — Kurt David Harder

Hair-raising horror-fest *Spiral* is the gay spin on *Get Out* and *Hereditary* we've all been waiting for. It's the 1990s, and Aaron (Ari Cohen) and Malik (Jeffrey Bowyer-Chapman) move from the big city with their teenage daughter so they can enjoy the quieter, small town life. The locals are a bit surprised by the arrival of this 'unconventional' family, but they give them a warm welcome nonetheless. Then a disturbing run-in with an elderly neighbour leaves Malik shaken. It doesn't take long for him to suspect that the neighbours are hiding a terrifying — and deadly — secret.

THROUGH A PHENOMENAL PERFORMANCE, CHILLING ATMOSPHERE AND A TERRIFIC SCRIPT, SPIRAL BUILDS AN EXPERIENCE THAT IS AS TERRIFYING AS IT IS DEPRESSINGLY TIMELY.
— SLASHFILM



THIS IS NOT BERLIN

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 9.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 8.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Hari Sama, Mexico, 2019, 115 mins

COURTESY — Latido Films

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Mexico City, 1986. 17-year-old best friends, Carlos and Gera are like most teenage boys, obsessed with girls and getting out of school to have fun. When Gera's older sister takes them to an underground nightclub they realise the world is a lot bigger than their cosy middle class lives suggest. The club opens their eyes to a world of punk and new wave music, drugs, sexual freedom and where anything goes. When Carlos asks, "Is this a gay bar?" the response is, "It's an everything bar."

Above the club is a photography studio run by Nico, whose door is open to even more eye-opening sexual and artistic happenings. Carlos embraces this new world and becomes more confident and risk-taking in and out of the club. Very soon he catches the eye of Nico, but will he fully abandon himself to this new paradise?

THIS IS NOT BERLIN IS BOTH A SENSITIVE COMING-OF-AGE STORY AND A VIBRANT, AFFECTIONATE ODE TO MEXICO CITY'S BURGEONING COUNTERCULTURE.
— LOS ANGELES TIMES



THE GLASS ROOM

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 4.30PM
THE CAPITOL

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Julius Ševčík, Czech republic, 2019, 103 mins

COURTESY — In Praha Film

Based on Simon Mawer's acclaimed novel which in turn was inspired by the dramatic events of the 20th century and the birth of an iconic architectural gem, the Tugendhat Villa in Brno, *The Glass Room* is an epic love story between two women who are swept up in the historical events that went on to shape the modern world.

Czechoslovakia, the 1930s, we meet a newly married couple Viktor and Liesel, who have commissioned renowned German architect Rainer von Abt to build a unique house — a minimalist modern masterpiece with a transparent glass room at its heart. The couple's idyllic life however is merely a facade as we discover Viktor is unfaithful on a regular basis and Liesel is really in love with her best friend Hana (played by *Game of Thrones*' Carice van Houten). As the threat of World War II looms, the course of all their lives is about to change irrevocably. This powerful and gripping drama will engross you in its epic scope and grandeur.



WHITE LIE

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 8.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, AT 8.45PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Calvin Thomas & Yonah Lewis, Canada, 2019, 96 mins

COURTESY — Playtime

In this white knuckle ride of a film we meet our anti-hero right in the thick of it. Katie Arneson is faking cancer. A university dance major, she has falsified her diagnosis in order to raise funds for her alleged illness. Her fundraising has transformed her into a campus celebrity and social media darling. Supported by a close-knit group of friends and a caring relationship with her girlfriend, Katie is selling the lie. However when she learns that her fundraising might be in jeopardy unless she produces her medical records, her well plotted lie begins to unravel. Gripping from the first minute to the last, *White Lie* is a compelling drama about a conflicted and complicated young woman that will leave you on the edge of your seat.

A CRIPPING CAUTIONARY TALE FOR THE FAKE NEWS ERA. — HOLLYWOOD REPORTER



TREMORS (TEMBLORES)

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 8.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 6.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Jayro Bustamante, Guatemala, France, Luxembourg, 2018, 107 mins
COURTESY — Palace Films
SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

WINNER BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE — NEWFEST 2019

Fortysomething Pablo is a scion of a staid upper-class family. Seemingly happily married to a supportive younger wife, father of two and a practising Evangelical Christian. But Pablo is on the brink of revealing a long-held secret, he is in love with another man. Encouraged by his lover Francesco, Pablo's coming out will have intense ramifications that will reverberate beyond his own family and the wider community.

Director Jayro Bustamante's moody and intense second feature demands to be seen on the big screen. With truly affecting visuals, performances and atmosphere, its themes of religious repression and being true to yourself regardless of the costs will reverberate long after you leave the cinema.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GUATEMALAN DRAMA ABOUT A GAY MAN TORN BETWEEN FAITH AND FAMILY. — INDIIEWIRE

END OF THE CENTURY

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 7.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

MONDAY, MARCH 16, AT 6.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

DIR — Lucio Castro, Argentina, 2019, 84 mins
COURTESY — Stray Dogs
SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Taking home the Jury Prize for Best First Feature at Frameline, Argentinian writer/director Lucio Castro's whirlwind romance set on the beaches and backstreets of beautiful Barcelona brings to mind Andrew Haigh's *Weekend*. Not unlike that film, the two hunky men hook-up on Grindr and get way more emotionally bonded than they expected.

As great as that set-up is, what at first plays out as a wistful longing for a lost moment soon becomes an intriguingly perplexing puzzle box. When, exactly, these boys met and just how many times becomes a fascinating, heart-aching mystery spread across a non-linear timeline that's deliciously unmooring.

Featuring one of the best 80s pop needle drops set to an adorably dorky dance sequence, *End of the Century* is a mysterious, seductive ride that invites you to release yourself into its dreamy rhythm and drift away. We promise your heart will never be the same again when the end credits roll.

MARGIN OF ERROR

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 3.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 3.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE
DIR — Liliana Paolinelli, Argentina, 2019, 82 mins
COURTESY — Mandrágora Productions
SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Iris is happily partnered to Jackie, their 23 year relationship surrounded by good friends and a seemingly idyllic life. Iris's world however begins to crumble when she agrees to host the young and free spirited Maia, her best friend's daughter. The infatuation consumes her whole world and everything that once seemed established in her life is at stake when she hears on the grapevine that Maia has fallen in love with an older woman. Is it Iris?

Director Liliana Paolinelli's droll take on the quintessential May/December romance gives proceedings a fresh spin by focusing on an older woman's desires as she grapples with a late life crisis and questions the life choices she has made. Brimming with sparkling performances from the mostly female cast, *Margin of Error* is a delightful watch.

SCREENS WITH LONG DISTANCE
DIR — Anoop Lokkur, Australia, 2019, 7 mins

CARMILLA

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 8.45PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE
DIR — Emily Harris, UK, 2019, 96 mins
COURTESY — The Festival Agency

Director Emily Harris' sensual debut feature is an atmospheric take on the famous lesbian vampire novel of the same name, focusing more on its dark coming-of-age love story, steeped in mystery and illicit desires. 15-year-old Lara lives in relative isolation with her father and strict governess, Miss Fontaine. A carriage crash nearby brings a young girl into the family home to recuperate, the eponymous Carmilla. The pair embark on a passionate relationship, which strikes fear into the heart of Miss Fontaine and a complex emotional triangle emerges between the three women. Swirling around this forbidden romance are local rumors of an evil supernatural presence which fuel Miss Fontaine's concern for Lara's well-being and raise questions about the mysterious Carmilla.

[A] BLEND OF SUPERSTITIOUS BROODING, SAPPHIC ROMANCE AND SEXUAL AWAKENING. — SCREEN INTERNATIONAL



I MISS YOU (TU ME MANQUES)

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 8.30PM
THE CAPITOL

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 6.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Rodrigo Bellott, Bolivia/USA,
2019, 105 mins

COURTESY — Rodrigo Bellot

SPANISH & ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

After his son Gabriel's suicide, conservative businessman Jorge travels from his native Bolivia to New York determined to confront Gabriel's ex, Sébastien. Still in shock Sébastien attempts to show the homophobic Jorge the life his son wanted to lead but was thwarted by the restraints placed upon him by his family and Bolivian society at large. In an attempt to focus his grief and rage, Sébastien writes a play to be staged in his home country, to honour Gabriel, and to help young queers accept themselves.

Based on his stage play that caused a seismic shift in Bolivia, Rodrigo Bellott has crafted an intriguingly constructed film, building to a powerful ending. Selected as Bolivia's official Academy Award entry (showing how far the country has progressed in LGBTQ+ recognition), *I Miss You* is an award-winning and emotional tour-de-force.

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TELL IT TO THE BEES

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 4.00PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 6.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Annabel Jankel, UK, 2018,
108 mins, MA 15+

COURTESY — Transmission Films

Academy Award winner Anna Paquin stars in this passionate and heartfelt adaptation of Fiona Shaw's best-selling novel. Set in post-war Scotland in a sleepy seaside town, Paquin plays Jean a doctor (and beekeeper) who has inherited her father's medical practice. When 10 year old Charlie ends up at her surgery following a schoolyard scrape, she forms a friendship with his mother Lydia, a single mother who is struggling to make ends meet. It's not long until this bond develops into romance and the women become targets for gossip and bigotry.

The two leads anchor this sweeping and engrossing period love story, giving their plight a palpable sense of desire and urgency.

[HOLLIDAY] CRAINGER IS A MAGNETIC AND SENSUAL FOIL TO THE FROWNING, RELIABLY EXPRESSIVE [ANNA] PAQUIN. THE FLIRTY TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO FEELS QUIETLY CREDIBLE, THE CAMERA OCCASIONALLY SHUDDERING WITH DESIRE.
— THE OBSERVER



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What's next...





MEN OF HARD SKIN

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 8.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 5.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — José Celestino Campusano, Argentina, 2019, 96 mins

COURTESY — Companiade Cine, Cinebruto

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

CONTAINS SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIAL

Gay teeneager Ariel lives with his older sister and their father in a rural area around Buenos Aires. When the film opens, Ariel has ended his relationship with a predatory Catholic priest named Omar, who is not ready to let the young man go. While taking advantage of the many cruising sites around the area, Ariel's search for love brings him into the orbit of a brooding rustler in trouble with the law and a farmhand that works on his father's property. All the while Ariel's father tries to set him up with local women but with little success. Meanwhile Omar confides in his desires to an older priest who also shares his longings.

Men of Hard Skin is an earthy, unsentimental and explicit journey that is unflinching in its depiction of a young man's sexual desire, while exploring controversial topics such as sex, power and the abuse surrounding the Catholic church in Argentina.



SÓCRATES

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 3.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — Alex Moratto, Brazil, 2018, 71 mins

COURTESY — O2 Films

PORTUGUESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

After the death of his mother, Sócrates, a 15-year-old boy living in the outskirts of São Paulo's coast, avoids returning to his homophobic father's house by restlessly looking for a job in order to pay rent and make ends meet. However, being underage prevents him from getting a regular job which makes him rely on underpaid, illegal gigs. In one of those, Sócrates meets Maicon, a troubled teen whom he starts a fiery and intense sexual relationship with but who is unable to provide Sócrates with what he craves, an emotional connection and stability.

With a spectacular performance from Christian Malheiros, this debut feature from Brazilian filmmaker Alex Moratto has won accolades and awards in festivals all over the world and has been lauded for its authenticity, compassion and grit.

STRIKING IN ITS CRITTY, POWERFUL AUTHENTICITY. — **HOLLYWOOD REPORTER**

SCREENS WITH BEAR IN A FUR COAT

DIR — Albert Koomen, Australia, 2019, 9 mins



ANNE+

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 6.30PM
CINEMA CINEMA NOVA

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 8.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

DIR — Valerie Bisscheroux, Netherlands, 2018, 67 mins

COURTESY — Millstreet Films

DUTCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

When twenty-something Anne pops to the shops in her least glamorous attire and immediately runs into ex Lily and her hot new partner, it's safe to say we've all felt that excruciating pain. In six adorable and breezy vignettes, each section divided up by one of Anne's ex girlfriend's, we dive headlong into the bustling hubbub of Amsterdam's hipster scene. That awkward chance encounter sparks a trip down memory lane, as Anne grapples with moving into a new home solo, personal crises and drama with her supportive besties, overbearing parents and would-be suitors that each bring their own complications with them. Sometimes to move forward and figure out who we want to be, and who we want to be with, we have to go right back to where it all started. Wearing its heart on its sleeve, this Dutch delight is an effervescent treat.

SCREENS WITH LADY LIBERTY

DIR — Taylor Lee Nagel, USA, 2019, 26 mins



BILLIE AND EMMA

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 4.00PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Samantha Lee, Philippines, 2018, 104 mins, U15+

TAGALOC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

This gentle coming-of-age love story introduces us to Billie, a feisty tomboy teenager who moves from Manila to St Isidro to live with her aunt, a religious teacher at the local Catholic school for girls which Billie starts to attend. There she meets Emma, one of the popular kids who is also one of the school's best students.

A class project brings the two girls together and a friendship develops. While Billie frequently clashes with her aunt in class and at home about her sexuality and other religious views, Emma finds out that she's pregnant with her boyfriend Miguel. The girls find comfort in each other and a romance develops.

Billie and Emma's writer-director-producer, Samantha Lee (*Maybe Tomorrow*, MQFF 2018), excels in presenting a fresh perspective to this familiar tale of first love with touches of sweetness and innocence while addressing head on the religious background of this small community where the story takes place.

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY





FIREFLIES

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 6.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 3.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Bani Khoshnoudi, Mexico, Greece, Dominican Republic, 2018, 85 mins

COURTESY — Figa Films

SPANISH, FARSI AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

WINNER BEST FILM — MIAMI FILM FESTIVAL 2019

When Ramin hid on a cargo ship leaving Turkey, he never expected to end up in Veracruz, Mexico by accident. Having escaped persecution as a young gay man in his home country, Iran, he suddenly finds himself far from everything he knows, living the life of an exile in this nostalgic, tropical port where his past and future are constantly confronted by new relationships and burgeoning desires. His longing to return home becomes a complex notion when he meets and begins a passionate affair with the intriguing and intense Guillermo.

Touching on topical issues that have defined our times, *Fireflies* is a compassionate and sensitive drama about the constant longing for a country that doesn't accept who you are and the unexpected places we end up calling home.



THE PRINCE

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 9.15PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 6.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — Sebastián Muñoz, Chile, Argentina, Belgium, 2019, 96 mins

COURTESY — Patra Spanu

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

CONTAINS SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIAL AND SOME VIOLENCE

WINNER QUEER LION BEST FILM — VENICE FILM FESTIVAL 2019

In this electrifying '70s-set homoerotic prison drama set in Chile, Jaime, a narcissistic 20 year old, is sent to prison when he kills his best friend for seemingly no apparent reason (the reason why plays out as the film unfolds). Once inside he meets The Stallion, an older and respected prisoner in whom Jaime will find protection, loyalty, tenderness and even love. Behind bars, Jaime becomes The Prince, a desired figure who finds himself caught in a sexual and violent power struggle between The Stallion and his one time lover and prison rival, Che.

Based on a controversial cult novel, all the more so because it was written in a more conservative and repressive time in Chile, *The Prince* is a provocative and erotic powerhouse of a film.



THE GROUND BENEATH MY FEET

MONDAY, MARCH 16, AT 6.15PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

DIR — Marie Kreutzer, Austria, 2019, 108 mins

COURTESY — Picture Tree International

GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

CONTAINS THEMES OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE

WINNER OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL NARRATIVE FEATURE — OFFFEST 2019

Lola is a jet-setting business consultant who excels at the aggressive tactics and nonstop work her job requires. She travels back and forth from Vienna, where her tasteful apartment serves more as mailbox and laundromat than home. She manages her personal life with the same ruthless efficiency she uses to optimize profit margins, keeping her relationship with her boss Elise secret, as well as the existence of her older sister Conny, who has a long history of mental illness. But when she receives the news that Conny has attempted suicide, Lola's secrets threaten to explode into the open.

Centered by a riveting performance from Valerie Pachner, *The Ground Beneath My Feet* is a tense and powerful psychological thriller about the human cost of the modern world.



DISTANCE

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 1.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Perci Intalan, Philippines, 2018, 90 mins

COURTESY — Ignatius Films

TACALOC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Liza is visited by her estranged husband, Anton, and is begged to return to the family home she abruptly abandoned five years ago (a mystery that gets revealed as the film plays out). Numbed by an unspoken grief, Liza agrees to follow Anton and attempts to re-enter her former life. However, her children, Therese and Karla, are hesitant, shocked by this sudden reappearance. While the younger Therese is more open to her mother's attempts to rebuild trust, university student, Karla remains distant, refusing to engage with Liza. Compounding the emotions that she feels about her mother's return, Therese is attracted to a female classmate.

This award-winning Filipino film is highlighted by excellent performances and a tightly controlled atmosphere of suppressed desires and long-held secrets.

A SPLENDID DRAMA. THE KIND THAT EXHIBITS EXCELLENT RESTRAINT, WHERE THE CHARACTERS SWEEP THEIR SIMMERING, SUPPRESSED EMOTIONS UNDER THE COVER OF POLITENESS AND CIVILITY.
— REVERSE DELAY



15 YEARS

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, AT 5.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 4.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Yuval Hadadi, Israel, 2019, 89 mins

COURTESY — Yudhey Films

HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**WINNER, BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE, 2019
CHICAGO LGBTQ+ FILM FESTIVAL**

Yoav and Dan are a successful couple living their best life, celebrating 15 happy years together surrounded by friends in their pristine Tel Aviv apartment. But when Yoav discovers that his best friend Alma is having a baby, Dan begins to contemplate the idea of fatherhood too. It flips a switch in Yoav, sending him on a spiral of self-destruction and threatening to destroy his relationships with both Dan and Alma. *15 Years* is an affecting, powerfully-acted drama about emotional repression and a relationship in crisis.



MONSOON

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 5.00PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, AT 3.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Hong Khaou, UK, 2019, 85 mins

COURTESY — Madman Entertainment

Kit (*Crazy Rich Asians*' Henry Golding) returns to Ho Chi Minh City for the first time after his family fled the country in the aftermath of the Vietnam-American war. Drifting, aimless and alone, he arranges an on-line date with Lewis, a handsome and sensitive African American clothes designer whose father also fought in the war. Despite some initial tension over their parents' opposing roles in the conflict, a romance sparks between them, embarking Kit on a personal journey that opens up the possibility for friendship, love and happiness.

Director Hong Khaou (*Litling*, MQFF 2015) has created a rich, sumptuous and poignant reflection on the struggle for identity in a place where the past weighs heavily on the present.

**A TOUCHING, THOUGHTFUL AND
CORCEOUSLY SHOT PIECE OF WORK.**
— SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

thorneharbour
health*



BRIEF STORY FROM THE GREEN PLANET

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, AT 8.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — Santiago Loza, Argentina, Germany, Brazil, Spain, 2019, 75 mins

COURTESY — The Open Reel

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**TEDDY AWARD FOR BEST FEATURE, 2019
BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL.**

Yes there's an alien, but it's definitely not E.T. In this playful and genre-defying Argentinian drama, trans woman Tania, along with two of her old school friends, returns to her hometown following the death of her grandmother. But when she gets there, Tania discovers something very surprising — *grandma* has been living with an extraterrestrial and her dying wish was for it to be returned to the woods where it was discovered. So, map in hand, the trio of loveable misfits head out on a mystifying journey full of wonder and the joy of being an outsider.

SCREENS WITH NIRVANA

DIR — Jess Kohl, UK, 2018, 15 mins



LINGUA FRANCA

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, AT 6.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Isabel Sandoval, US, Philippines, 2019, 94 mins

COURTESY — Lux Box

In this beguiling drama, an undocumented Filipina immigrant paranoid about deportation works as a caregiver to a Russian-Jewish grandmother in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn. When the American man she's secretly paying for a green card marriage backs out, she becomes involved with a slaughterhouse worker who is unaware that she's transgender.

Director, writer and star Isabel Sandoval has created a sensitive and beguiling character study full of depth and intimacy and brings to light the uneasy and vulnerable situations undocumented migrants and transwomen can find themselves in.

**LINGUA FRANCA IS A LANDMARK FILM IN
THAT IT IS THE FIRST TO BE WRITTEN
AND DIRECTED BY A TRANS WOMAN OF
COLOUR. — SCREEN INTERNATIONAL**

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OLIVIA

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, AT 1.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Jacqueline Audry, France, 1951, B&W, 95 mins, U15+

COURTESY — Les Films du Jeudi
FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

There's a hint of Peter Weir's *Picnic at Hanging Rock* in this beautifully restored French classic that explores the 'it's complicated' intertwining personal lives of a group of excitable boarding schoolgirls.

Enter sweet-hearted English teenager Olivia, whose arrival at the school sparks a war between duelling mistresses, headteacher Julie and her subordinate Cara; the latter ensconced in her frilly bedroom, apparently ill.

With more than a suggestion that there's a bit more than professional differences between them in their fraught history, anticipation hangs in the air. When Olivia fixates on one over the other, it sets in train an emotionally wrought spiral that soon spins out of control.

Adapted from the controversy-sparking 1949 novel by an initially pseudonymous Dorothy Bussy, director Jacqueline Audry and her sister, writer Colette, intimately grasp the complexities of female attraction and teenage abandon. Never condescending, and surprisingly forthright for its time, you'll not want to miss this retrospective queer gem.

A WORK OF BOLD, BARELY REPRESSED SENSUALITY, IN WHICH THE SIMMERING, UNSPOKEN, BUT EVER-PRESENT LOVE BETWEEN WOMEN THREATENS TO BOIL OVER.
— FILM COMMENT



TAXI ZUM KLO

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 1.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Frank Ripploh, Germany, 1980, 90 mins
COURTESY — Edition Salzgeber

GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

CONTAINS SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIAL

When your day kicks off with you trapped naked on the apartment block stairwell, caught in the act of stealing your neighbour's newspaper, you might hope that's as crazy as it gets. Not so in this gleefully cheeky docudrama. Translated as *Taxi to the Toilet*, filmmaker and star Frank Ripploh's erotic romp through Berlin's gay sex scene is a retro treasure, documenting the out-there 80s.

Semi-autobiographical and often fully engorged, the former schoolteacher delivers a bracingly candid look at queer life, teaching young kids by day then hitting leather bars, dark rooms, beats, glory holes and drag balls by night, leading inexorably to a collision between the two.

A fascinating look at unabashed gay life lived out loud, proud and decidedly un-PC, pre-HIV/AIDS crisis. Between the brazen bonking, it also takes time to examine the (im)possibility of monogamous relationships, featuring a genuinely touching appearance by Ripploh's real boyfriend Bernd Broaderup. Hot to trot.

Neighbours | No Time for Quiet

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THE ARCHIVETTES

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 6.30PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Megan Rossman, USA,
2019, 61 mins, U15+

COURTESY — Women Make Movies

Born in 1974 in a Manhattan apartment, the Lesbian Herstory Archive has grown to become an essential collection of lesbian history. This inspiring documentary tells the story of the women behind that collection, the devoted Archivettes who have cared for it over the years with passion and perseverance, ensuring that the diversity of lesbian histories and identities, from the personal to the political, live on. Featuring brilliant archival footage and interviews with several generations of Archivettes, it's an empowering story of pride, resistance and intergenerational connection.

A WARM GROUP PORTRAIT OF A VISIONARY PROJECT. — THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

SCREENS WITH CATHERINE OPIE B. 1961

DIR — Sini Anderson, 2019, USA, 14 mins

5B

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 3.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Paul Haggis, Dan Krauss, USA,
2018, 94 mins

COURTESY — Rogers and Cowan

THIS IS AN OPEN CAPTION SCREENING

5B is the inspirational story of the everyday heroes, nurses and caregivers who took extraordinary action to comfort, protect and care for the patients of the first AIDS ward unit in the United States. 5B is movingly told through first-person testimony of these nurses and caregivers who built Ward 5B in 1983 at San Francisco General Hospital, their patients, loved ones, and staff who volunteered to create care practices based in humanity and holistic well-being during a time of great uncertainty. The result is an uplifting yet candid and bittersweet monument to a pivotal moment in American history and a celebration of quiet heroes, nurses and caregivers worthy of renewed recognition.

AN UPLIFTING FILM ABOUT PROFOUND
HUMAN DECENCY AND CENEROSITY OF
SPIRIT. — THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

prahran market clinic





HOUSE OF CARDIN

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 5.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIR — P. David Ebersole, Todd Hughes, USA, France, 2019, 95 mins, G

COURTESY — Umbrella Entertainment

ENGLISH AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Millions know the iconic logo and ubiquitous signature but few know the man behind the larger than life label. What is the story behind this legendary icon?

House of Cardin is a rare peek into the mind of a genius. This feature documentary chronicles the life and design of Pierre Cardin. A true original, Cardin granted the filmmakers exclusive access to his archives and his empire and the film features unprecedented interviews with the man himself and a star-studded cast that includes, Naomi Campbell, Sharon Stone, Jean-Paul Gaultier and Philippe Starck, who celebrate the incredible legacy and glorious career of this one of a kind artist.

THIS IS A DELICIOUSLY ENTERTAINING AND PERCEPTIVE TAKE ON CARDIN'S LIFE AND HOW HE SHAPED BOTH THE SILHOUETTE OF FASHION AND BRANDING IN THE FASHION WORLD AND BEYOND. — HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

PROUDLY CO-PRESENTED BY



QUEERING THE SCRIPT

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 3.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Gabrielle Zilkha, Canada, 2019, 90 mins, U15+
COURTESY — Film Collaborative

WINNER OUTFEST SPECIAL PROGRAMMING AWARD FOR FREEDOM

Representation matters! Fans matter! Queering the Script is an entertaining and eye-opening documentary about how queer females are shown on TV.

Featuring interviews with such pioneers as Lucy Lawless, Ilene Chaiken, Stephanie Beatriz and Angelica Ross and covering shows including *The 100*, *Xena Warrior Princess*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *The L Word*, *Queering the Script* shows the power of fandom and how strong our voice is when we see positive images of ourselves!

QUEERING THE SCRIPT DOWN UNDER PANEL

Following the screening join us for a panel discussing on how the insights raised by the film apply to the Australian TV context. From a world first kiss between two women characters in *The Box* in 1974, to the shipping of Wentworth's Franky and Bridget we ask: who are our favourite queer characters on Australian small screens? *Moderated by Dr Patrick Kelly, and featuring panelists Corrie Chen, Dr Whitney Monagha, Natesha Somasundaram and Dr Stayci Taylor.*

PANEL PRESENTED BY



MELBOURNE

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QUEER JAPAN

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 3.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Graham Kolbeins, Japan/USA,
2019, 99 mins

COURTESY — Graham Kolbeins

JAPANESE & ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH
SUBTITLES

Japan has a long history of sexual fluidity, as evidenced in a rich tradition of erotic art that continues to this day in the endlessly inventive nation's creatively colourful LGBTQ+ scene. Small but multi-formed, it hasn't always been easy for the activists, club owners, artists and other trailblazers who paved the way. The influence of western culture, and Christianity in particular, has created a political and social climate that pushes such individuality to the margins.

Undaunted, we meet an inspiring group of individuals pushing back. From internationally renowned erotic manga creator Gengoroh Tagame, to non-binary hentai performance artist and fetish-lover Saeborg, plus Aya Kamikawa, the country's first elected official from the trans community, their personal stories offer an invaluable insight into the many thriving facets of queer life in Japan. Skipping from sprawling Tokyo to Okinawa Island, with intimate revelations and on-screen lingo tips along the way, it's a joyous and empowering celebration of community.



XY CHELSEA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 8.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Tim Travers Hawkins, UK/USA,
2019, 92 mins

COURTESY — Dogwoof

From the moment she uploaded classified USA military documents to Wikileaks in January 2010 Chelsea Manning became a polarising figure — hated by many for her perceived treason, and hailed as a hero by others for exposing the USA's alleged war crimes. At the age of 23, Manning was imprisoned for 35 years, and whilst incarcerated, transitioned. When President Obama commuted her sentence in 2017, Manning was released into an even more hostile and divided world.

With extraordinary access to one of the most (in)famous persons of the 21st Century, XY Chelsea's raw and personal footage is breathtaking, as it follows Manning from the minute she leaves prison and climbs aboard the public persona rollercoaster ride as she readjusts to life as a 'free' person.

A TOUCHING AND TRAGIC PORTRAIT.
— **THE NEW YORK TIMES**



JONATHAN AGASSI SAVED MY LIFE

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 6.00PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 9.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Tomer Heymann, Germany/Israel,
2018, 106 mins

COURTESY — Heymann Brothers Films
HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

CONTAINS SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIAL
AND DRUG USE

Winning Best Director at QFest Houston and Best Documentary at the Israeli Film Academy Awards, this is the latest intimate portrait from the filmmaker who brought us *Mr Gaga* and *Who's Gonna Love Me Now?* (MQFF 2017)

Shot over eight years, between Berlin and Tel Aviv, it's an unflinching and occasionally XXX-rated look at the life of world-famous gay porn sensation and escort Jonathan Agassi.

Pulling back the adult entertainment curtain, there's much more to this deeply affecting doco than meets the eyebrow-raised eye. At its heart is the beautiful relationship Agassi enjoys with his unwavering and supportive mother and the considerable gap between the real Jonathan and his show pony alter-ego.



SID & JUDY

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, AT 7.15PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

DIR — Stephen Kijak, USA, 2019, 100 mins, U15+
COURTESY — Park Circus

Marking the 50th anniversary of Judy Garland's untimely death and hot off the heels of the Renee Zellweger biopic *Judy*, this immensely satisfying documentary is if anything a poignant reminder of the wit, humour, intelligence and star wattage talent behind this Hollywood icon.

Narrated by John Hamm and Jennifer Jason Leigh, *Sid & Judy* captures like never before the woman behind the legend. Using rare footage and audio recordings never heard before, this lovingly crafted documentary will surprise and delight any die-hard Judy fan and the uninitiated.

The film's moving coda reminds us of the importance Judy Garland has for the LGBTI+ community and will leave you applauding for more.

JON HAMM AND JENNIFER JASON LEIGH
NARRATE A LOVING FILM THAT'S ESSENTIAL
VIEWING FOR FANS. — INDIEWIRE

SID & JUDY IS A DELUXE NONFICTION
SOAP OPERA. FULL OF COSSIPY DRAMA
AND ROUSING MUSICAL INTERLUDES.
— **THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER**



SCREAM, QUEEN! MY NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, AT 8.45PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Roman Chimienti, Tyler Jensen, USA, 2019, 100 mins

COURTESY — Umbrella Entertainment

Relive your teen slumber parties with this eye-opening doco about Mark Patton, horror's first male scream queen and star of *A Nightmare on Elm Street 2: Freddy's Revenge*. The film that was set to launch Patton's career instead turned out to be a real-life nightmare — and the monster in the room was his sexuality. *Scream, Queen!* deftly explores *Freddy 2*'s overt gay subtext and the hurt it caused Patton and the queer community. Add to this Patton's Broadway career, Cher, 80s Hollywood and the AIDS epidemic and you get a thrilling slice of queer history and compulsory viewing for all horror fans!

SCREAM, QUEEN! REACHES INTO THE FABULOUS RECESSES OF QUEER HORROR FANS, FILMMAKERS, AND ACADEMICS TO OFFER A WELL-ROUNDED AND HUMOROUS ACCOUNTING OF THE QUEER CULT CLASSIC.
— INDIENIRE

YOU DON'T NOMI

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 6.45PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Jeffrey McHale, USA, 2019, 94 mins

COURTESY — The Festival Agency

When *Showgirls* was released in 1995, Paul Verhoeven's salacious and controversial R-rated look at Vegas dancers was met by critics and audiences with howls of derision. But in the intervening decades, the film has inspired an ever-growing fan base and impassioned debate over its quality, artistic intent and messages about sex and gender. Guided by a chorus of film critics, scholars, and fervent devotees, Jeffrey McHale's endlessly entertaining documentary explores the legacy of *Showgirls*, and its journey from notorious flop to quotable cult classic and its embrace within the LGBTI+ community. However the film saves its most poignant and triumphant moments for *Showgirls*' much maligned star Elizabeth Berkley whose career was derailed by the film's reception.

YOU DON'T NOMI MAKES A COMPELLING CASE THAT THE MUCH-MALIGNED POP-CULTURE LANDMARK CAN BE JUDGED AS EITHER TANDRY RUBBISH OR SUBVERSIVE COMIC TRIUMPH. — THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Why MQFF matters to

From speculating a character's inferred queerness in films like *Rebel Without A Cause* to *Love Simon* — a high-budget film that challenged mainstream audiences to see gay men not as just tragic victims or sassy best friends, we've come far (slowly), but these stories only represent a small section of our community.

Carol's huge box office pool showed the world that the anxieties of falling in love are universal. *Moonlight* didn't just give the community our first Best Picture winner, it put the spotlight on vastly underrepresented LGBTI+ people of colour. And A Fantastic Woman's groundbreaking Best Supporting Actress award wins proved that the entire industry is changing with its films.

While the response from the majority may be changing, the vital role of queer film festivals remains the same — they will always create a safe space for our stories and give us a something to belong to.

And that's why ME is a proud sponsor of the Melbourne Queer Film Festival.

Because when we see ourselves on screen, it helps us to make sense of our place in the world.

MQFF is not just a festival of movies, it's one of belonging. We're encouraged and inspired by people experiencing similar struggles and milestones.

And at ME, we believe the same goes in the workplace — queer representation in leadership roles and affinity groups give us visibility and support, and as a result, belonging.

But there are still so many stories that need to be told.

So whether it's your first attendance or you're a MQFF buff, we hope you experience something today that matters to you.



Kate

Which queer film mattered to you?

As a queer person, marriage and kids haven't always been in the equation. So when I saw an established gay couple who had children together in *The Kids Are Alright*, suddenly this was something I realised I could do.



Andrew

What does belonging at ME feel like?

It's really nice to see the diversity of people in ProudlyME — and hear their thoughts and opinions expressed with pride and without reservation.



Hannah

What is it like to work at ME?

When I'm at events like our mixers or 25th anniversary, it's like a wild snowball of energy and excitement. There's a wholesome genuineness to that — and that is weird for a bank — and I get to be part of this group and this tribe.



Ed
Copywriter, ME





AUSTRALIAN SHORTS & AWARDS

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, AT 5.00PM
THE CAPITOL

BACKING UP BILITIS

DIR — Abbie Pobjoy, 2019, 12 mins

BLACK LIPS

DIR — Adrian Chiarella, 2019, 15 mins

**MANDARIN AND ENGLISH WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES**

KIDS ON FIRE

DIR — Tommy Hart, 2018, 7 mins

THE FALL

DIR — Shannon Anderson, 2019, 12 mins

HOOK UP

DIR — Laura Nagy, 2020, 15 mins

WE'RE NOT HERE

DIR — Bonnie Moir, 2019, 11 mins

STRANGERS

DIR — Jamieson Pearce, 2019, 13 mins

THIS PERFECT DAY

DIR — Lydia Rui, 2018, 7 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 92 mins

CHECK MQFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY



Join us in celebrating some of the brightest queer voices and filmmaking talent Australia has. This collection of adventurous, thought-provoking and unmissable shorts will transport you to the birth of the Australian gay liberation movement, a clandestine and dangerous rendezvous at a secluded beach in the Mediterranean and to the back beaches of NSW where a black market abalone farmer experiences a sexual awakening.

This year MQFF is thrilled to also include the winning film of last years Pitch, Please! Competition, *Hook Up*.

MQFF with the City of Melbourne are 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 winner of the City of Melbourne Best Australian Short will also qualify as MQFF's official selection for the Iris Prize — the largest prize for LGBTI+ short film in the world.

THE CITY OF MELBOURNE AWARD

Best Australian Short (\$5,000)

FILM VICTORIA AWARD

Best Director Australian Short Film (\$2,500)

ME BANK AWARD

Emerging Filmmaker (\$2,500)

OUT HERE SHORTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 6.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

MQFF is proud to present *Out Here Shorts*, a joint initiative between Screen Australia and Network 10. These three thought-provoking and moving documentaries focus on the LGBTIQ+ experience in rural and regional communities.

ALONE OUT HERE

DIR — Luke Cornish, 2020, 22 mins

THE RAINBOW PASSAGE

DIR — Cadance Bell, 2020, 22 mins

BELONGING

DIR — Matt Scholten, 2020, 22 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 66 mins, U15+

CHECK MQFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

ACMI Re/new

We are undergoing a major rebuild to transform our museum, reopening in mid 2020.
Follow our story: acmi.net.au/renew





GUY ON GUY SHORTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 6.30PM
THE CAPITOL

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 1.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

What do Queer Palm winners, musical interludes for a crappy day, a road trip for parting lovers, closeted men of faith and a night on the town captured via social media all have in common? They are all part of this brilliant, riveting, funny and tender collection of guy on guy shorts brought to you from all corners of the globe.

SWEATER

DIR — Nick Borenstein, USA, 2019, 5 mins

POMPEII

DIR — Harry Lighton, UK, 2019, 9 mins

BLACK HAT

DIR — Sarah Smith, USA, 2019, 15 mins

THE ORPHAN

DIR — Carolina Markowicz, Brazil, 2018, 15 mins
PORTUGUESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

ALL GOOD THINGS

DIR — Simon Croker, Australia, 2019, 13 mins

ISHA

DIR — Christopher Manning, UK, 2018, 15 mins

HAUS

DIR — Joseph Amenta, Canada, 2018, 15 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 87 mins

CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

HOOKING UP

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 8.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

Making a connection, be it fleeting or romantic id on the minds of these men as they navigate the rules of engagement. Be it being the third in a threeway with a long term couple, hooking up in post marriage equality Australia or taking your first steps as an out gay man, these essential man on man shorts will delight, while shining a light on the kind of love we make.

BENDER

DIR — Alex Cardy, Australia, 2019, 15 mins

FUN ONLY

DIR — Lukas Revzin, UK, 2018, 9 mins

LAVENDER

DIR — Matthew Puccini, USA, 2018, 10 mins

MY LONELINESS IS KILLING ME

DIR — Tim Courtney, UK, 2018, 17 mins

HIGH TIDE

DIR — Claire Zhou, Netherlands, 2018, 22 mins
DUTCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US AND THE SKY

DIR — Vasilis Kekatos, Greece, France, 2019, 9 mins

GREEK WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

BABY

DIR — Jessie Levandov, USA, 2019, 8 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 90 mins

CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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GIRL ON GIRL SHORTS LAWS OF DESIRE

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 4.30PM
THE CAPITOL

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 1.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

Comedy, romance, first love and heartbreak are all on the table in this must-see collection of international and local shorts.

FOXY TROT

DIR — Lisa Donato, USA, 2018, 15 mins

CINDY

DIR — Rosanagh Griffiths, Australia, UK, France, 2020, 13 mins

GIRLS WEEKEND

DIR — Kyra Sedgwick, USA, 2019, 11 mins

GIRL FRIEND

DIR — Chloe Sarbib, USA, 2018, 13 mins

AYANEH

DIR — Nicolas Greinacher, Switzerland, 2019, 14 mins

ENGLISH, PERSIAN, SWISS GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

MOTHERS DAY

DIR — Dorka Vermes, Hungary, 2018, 15 mins
HUNGARIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

YULIA AND JULIET

DIR — Zara Dwinger, Netherlands, 2019, 12 mins
DUTCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

TOTAL RUNTIME — 93 mins

CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

MONDAY, MARCH 16, AT 8.45PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, AT 6.45PM
CINEMA NOVA

The rules of attraction don't come with a handy guide book but part of the fun and surprise is discovering what those rules are as you will discover in these unmissable eight films.

AFTER YOU LEFT

DIR — April Maxey, USA, 2019, 9 mins

CHILDREN ALIKE

DIR — Julia Boström, Sweden, 2017, 5 mins
SWEDISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SQUARE ONE

DIR — Emily Jo Sargent, UK, 2019, 12 mins

FRIENDS LIKE THAT

DIR — Franscesca de Fusco, USA, 2019, 8 mins

THE PORNOGRAPHER

DIR — Gabrielle Demers, Canada, 2018, 11 mins
FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

XIAO XIAN

DIR — Jiajie Yu Yan, Spain, 2019, 17 mins
CHINESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

NATALIE

DIR — Tess Emmerson, Australia, 2019, 13 mins

TREACLE

DIR — Rosie Westhoff, UK, 2019, 18 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 93 mins

CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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movies THAT move You

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ASIA PACIFIC SHORTS

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, AT 1.15PM
CINEMA NOVA

Our queer neighbours are highlighted in this collection of films that celebrate the partnerships MQFF has forged with queer film festivals around the Asia Pacific region. These 5 award-winning international shorts take you from a security booth in India where two lovers find a safe and private haven, to Pakistan where a transgender woman takes in an abandoned child and to the bustling metropolis of Hong Kong where a delivery boy discovers his client is interested in more than just his dumplings.

DELIVERY BOY

DIR — Hugo Kenzo, Hong Kong, 2019, 15 mins
CANTONESE & ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

RANI

DIR — Hammad Rizvi, Pakistan, USA, 2018, 14 mins
URDU WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

THE BOOTH

DIR — Rohin Raveendran Nair, India, 2018, 15 mins
HINDI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

GENTLEMAN SPA

DIR — Yu Jhi-han, Taiwan, 2018, 18 mins
MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

KADO

DIR — Aditya Ahmad, Indonesia, 2018, 15 mins
MAKASSARESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

TOTAL RUNTIME — 77 mins

CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

DOCUMENTARY SHORTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 5.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

In this riveting and revealing collection of national and international films real queer lives are celebrated, eulogised and mourned. From the favelas of Brazil and the loss of a human rights champion, to the intimate face of Australia's divisive marriage equality vote and a photographer who has meticulously documented the lives of gay men; this group of LGBTI+ people are well worth getting to know.

STANLEY STELLAR: HERE FOR THIS REASON

DIR — Eric Leven, USA, 2019, 15 mins

SINGING FOR OUR TRUE HEART

DIR — Helena Cohen-Robertson and Poppy van Oorde-Grainger, Australia, 2019, 10 mins

SWEETHEART DANCERS

DIR — Ben-Alex Dupris, USA, 2019, 14 mins

YES?

DIR — Lizzy Bailey, Australia, 2019, 16 mins

MARIELLE AND MONICA

DIR — Fábio Erdos, Brazil, 2018, 25 mins
PORTUGUESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

A RARE BREED

DIR — Thomas José Field, Australia, 2019, 11 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 91 mins

CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

ANIMATION SHORTS

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, AT 9.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

The rainbow flag colours aren't the only colours on show here in this wonderful collection of diverse animation shorts from across the globe. This showcase proves yet again that animation can bring to splendid life the sublime and the absurd in equal measures.

DO YOU EVEN CARROT ALL?

DIR — Daniel Sterlin-Altman, Canada, 2018, 3 mins
GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES, ENGLISH

DIX PIX

DIR — Steven Fraser, UK, 2019, 4 mins

DEAR GIRL

DIR — Ji-Eun Choi, Hyo-jeong Cho, South Korea, 2019, 5 mins
KOREAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

OLCA'S SELF INSERT FANFICTION

DIR — Ella Sanderson & Georgette Stefoulis, Australia, 2018, 3 mins

DOCKING

DIR — Trevor Anderson, Canada, 2019, 4 mins

MR. MARE

DIR — Luca Tóth, Hungary, France, 2019, 19 mins

TOP 3

DIR — Sofie Edvardsson, Sweden, 2019, 44 mins
SWEDISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

TOTAL RUNTIME — 82 mins

CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

TRANSFORMATIONS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, AT 6.30PM
CINEMA NOVA

These luminous fiction and documentary shorts bring to vivid focus the trans experience. From being the head of a Saint Death cult, to jamming with your band or expressing yourself through dance, these films are brimming with the tribulations, triumphs and joys of expressing your true self.

FEE

DIR — Guen Murrone, UK, 2018, 11 mins

JESSIE JAMS

DIR — Trevor Anderson, Canada, 2020, 16 mins

I

DIR — Halla Tryggvadottir, Iceland, Lithuania, 2018 15 mins

ICELANDIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

THE BONY LADY

DIR — Adriana Barbosa and Thiago Zanato, USA, Brazil & Mexico, 2018, 20 mins

SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

HERE WITH YOU

DIR — Nona Schamus, USA, 2019, 7 mins

DANCE, DANCE EVOLUTION

DIR — Jules Roskam, USA, 2019, 18 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 87 mins

CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS



COMEDY SHORTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 7.00PM
THE CAPITOL

Looking at the funnier side of queer life, this collection of side-splitting films are all about the good times. These 8 shorts range from the intricacies of being in a five way relationship, to listening in on a mother and her gay son shopping and fighting in a \$2 store and following two friends as they get ready and shop for a white party with an up-for-it couple.

THE DAMN OF A NEW CAY

DIR — Rosie Gaunt-Mathieson, UK, 2019, 5 mins

STEPPADDY

DIR — Lisa Steen, USA, 2018, 8 mins

BUTCH

DIR — Harry Lloyd, Australia, 2019, 10 mins

99

DIR — Nick Borenstein, USA, 2019, 5 mins

POTION MASTERS

DIR — Cameron Laventure, USA, 2019, 12 mins

YOU AND ME AND HIM AND HIM AND HIM

DIR — Patrick Boyd, USA, 2019, 19 mins

ENBY INTERRUPTED

DIR — Sara Strachan & Jack Fitzgerald, Australia, 2019, 11 mins

THE TRAGIC FALL OF VALERIE

MALLORY FINKERSTEIN

DIR — Martina Monro, Canada, 2018, 13 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 83 mins

CHECK MQFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

MIXTAPE SHORTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, AT 5.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

THIS IS AN OPEN CAPTION SCREENING

MQFF remixed! If you've missed our shorts programs this year, never fear. MQFF has got you covered with this compilation all-sorts of highlights, award winners and must sees from across this year's shorts packages.

ENBY INTERRUPTED

DIR — Sara Strachan & Jack Fitzgerald, Australia, 2019, 11 mins

A RARE BREED

DIR — Thomas José Field, Australia, 2019, 11 mins

BLACK HAT

DIR — Sarah Smith, USA, 2019, 15 mins

AFTER YOU LEFT

DIR — April Maxey, USA, 2019, 9 mins

BOLDLY CO

DIR — Christopher Cosgrove, Australia, 2019, 6 mins

FEE

DIR — Guen Murrioni, UK, 2018, 11 mins

TREACLE

DIR — Rosie Westhoff, UK, 2019, 18 mins

WELCOME TO THE BALL

DIR — Adam Vincent Wright, USA, 2019, 5 mins

TOTAL RUNTIME — 86 mins

CHECK MQFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS



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CHANGING THE GAME

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 12.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DIR — Michael Barnett, USA, 2019, 90 mins
COURTESY — Film Collaborative

This intimate story takes us into the lives of three high school athletes from across the US — all at different stages of their athletic seasons, each sharing their lives as transgender teens. Mack Beggs made headlines last year when he became the Texas State Champion in girls wrestling — as a boy. Andraya Yearwood began competing on her high school girls track team in April 2017 as a transgender female. According to Connecticut's state policy Andraya is allowed to compete how she identifies. Sarah Rose Huckman lives in New Hampshire where she openly competes on the girls cross country ski team — but her eligibility could be challenged at anytime. Each story is led by the brave and individual voices of these students, allowing extremely personal and vulnerable access into their journeys. These courageous kids offer us the opportunity to see the world through their eyes — and share their struggles and successes along the way.

A SMART, POIGNANT TRIBUTE TO YOUNG ATHLETES CHANCING THE RULES.
— HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

YOUNG AND QUEER (YOUTH PROGRAM)
PROUDLY CO-CURATED BY THE MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL (ALL SESSIONS ARE U15+).



YOUTH SHORTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 2.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

This collection of youth-inspired shorts celebrate the troubles, the awkwardness and the sometimes hilarity of growing up queer.

BUBBLE

DIR — Alyssa Lerner, USA, 2019, 18 mins

WELCOME TO THE BALL

DIR — Adam Vincent Wright, USA, 2019, 5 mins

PRETTY BOY

DIR — Pierce Hadjinicola and Sinclair Suhood, Australia, 2019, 9 mins

MINI DV

DIR — Shauly Melamed, Israel, 2019, 9 mins
HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

DELPHINE

DIR — Chloé Robichaud, Canada, 2019, 15 mins
FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

BOLDLY CO

DIR — Christopher Cosgrove, Australia, 2019, 6 mins

IS YOUR TEEN A HOMOSEXUAL?

DIR — Tamara Scherbak, Canada, 2019, 7 mins

VIBES

DIR — Bane Fakih, USA, 2019, 6 mins

YOUR MOTHER WILL LOVE ME

DIR — Omer Harel, Israel, 2019, 12 mins
HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

TOTAL RUNTIME — 87 mins
CHECK MOFF.COM.AU FOR FURTHER DETAILS

DRAW KIDS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, AT 4.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

DIR — Megan Wennberg, Canada, 2019, 80 mins
COURTESY — Film Collaborative

Drag Kids is an intimate journey into the lives of four child drag queens from around the world. 8-year-old Stephan is defying bullies with his alter-ego Laddy GaGa, Jason is an 11-year-old drag queen living in the middle of America's Bible Belt, 11-year-old Bracken is charting her own course in the once male-only world of drag queens, and Nemis, self-identifies as the "Diva-est diva you'll ever meet". They have never met, but they're united by a shared passion for drag, and they're about to come together for the first time.



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MQFF PANELS & EVENTS

PITCH, PLEEZ!

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, AT 2.00PM
VILLAGE JAM FACTORY, ROC'S BAR

The Pitch is back! Last year MQFF introduced its first pitching competition with the winning film screening at this year's festival (*Hook Up* — Australian Shorts & Awards). Our search for the winning pitch uncovered some brilliant queer filmmaking talent so Pitch, Pleez!

returns to again offer LGBTQ+ filmmakers the opportunity to win a cash prize and a Blackmagic Design Pocket Cinema Camera 6K with DaVinci Resolve Studio software valued at \$2,600 that will go towards creating original short content be it fiction, documentary or a web series pilot.

The finalists will participate in an open session pitch-off event in front of a live audience and a jury of industry experts who will award the pitch that best celebrates and showcases MQFF's central values of proudly different queer stories in an Australian context.

So come on down and be a part of the audience and cheer on the finalists.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT. PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY MATTHEW LEE AND FILM VICTORIA AND BLACKMAGIC DESIGN.



IN CONVERSATION

TRANS AND GENDER-DIVERSE REPRESENTATION IN CINEMA: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE.

WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH AT 6.00PM
CINEMA NOVA

MQFF is proud to be screening *Lingua Franca* — the first film written, directed and starring a trans woman of colour — and *Brief Story from the Green Planet* — winner of Best Feature at the Berlin Film Festival Teddy Awards. With a spotlight on thought-provoking trans cinema, MQFF and ME Bank invite you to this special event for a conversation on trans and gender representation in queer cinema.

Featuring a panel of cross-disciplinary academics, artists and critics who will be reflecting on controversies, milestones and achievements, while looking forward to the factors that will shape trans and gender diverse representation in cinema over the decade to come.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL. PROUDLY PRESENTED BY ME BANK.



MQFF GIVES BACK

MQFF has proudly supported and fostered local queer filmmaking talent through its various awards and prizes, over its 30 years and most recently Pitch, Pleez which is back for 2020.

Supported by Film Victoria, Australian filmmakers selected for the 2020 program are also invited to participate in an exclusive film lab.

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

AWARDS

Shaun Miller Lawyers Award for Best Australian Documentary — Feature or Short (\$1,000)

The Pride Foundation Australia Award for the Best Australian Feature Film (\$1,000)

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

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

MQFF Award for Best International Short Fiction or Documentary (\$1,000)

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARDS

Step Right Up Audience Choice Award for Best Short Film (\$1,000)

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

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE FILM BY RATING FILMS ONLINE AT MQFF.COM.AU OR ON THE APP.

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MQFF VENUES

VILLAGE CINEMAS

THE JAM FACTORY
500 CHAPEL STREET, SOUTH YARRA VIC 3141

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

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).

FESTIVAL LOUNGE — Roc's Bar

RMIT UNIVERSITY THE CAPITOL

113 SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE VIC 3000

The Capitol, located in the heart of the Melbourne CBD, will host a number of sessions of the 30th MQFF

TRAIN — Flinders Street Station

TRAM — Any Swanston Street or St Kilda Road Tram to stop 11. Trams 11, 12 or 48 to stop 5.

FESTIVAL LOUNGE — The Carlton Club



380 LYCON STREET, CARLTON VIC 3053

Just a short tram ride or walk from Melbourne CBD. Look out for something uniquely MQFF in the Cinema Nova Bar & Kitchen.

TRAM — 1 or 6 to stop 112. Any Swanston Street tram to stop 1.

FESTIVAL LOUNGE — Cinema Nova Bar & Kitchen



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The City of Melbourne proudly supports major and emerging arts organisations through our 2018–20 Triennial Arts Grants Program

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Arts Access Victoria	La Mama	Multicultural Arts Victoria
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Circus Oz	Melbourne International Arts Festival	Victorian Youth Symphony Orchestra
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Emerging Writers' Festival	Melbourne International Film Festival	The Wheeler Centre
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ILBIJERRI Theatre Company	Melbourne Queer Film Festival	



melbourne.vic.gov.au/triennialarts



THANK YOU

WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO SHARE THE BEST OF LGBTQ+ CINEMA WITH OUR MELBOURNE AUDIENCES, AND VISITORS, WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS, MEMBERS, PRIVATE MEMBERS, PRIVATE DONORS, AND THE DEDICATION OF OVER ONE HUNDRED VOLUNTEERS WHO CENEROUSLY GIVE THEIR TIME EACH YEAR. PLEASE TAKE A BOW!

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Anastasha Boado, Stephanie Westwood.

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Spiro Economopoulos, Maxwell Gratton, David Micallef, David Morgan.

PROGRAM NOTES

Rachel Brown, Daniela Caldas, Spiro Economopoulos, Stephen A Russell, Paul Tonta.

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Our private donors — MQFF Sweethearts — directly support the Festival's operations and programming, and by doing so help maintain our reputation for excellence in LGBTQI film presentation. The Festival warmly acknowledges our 2020 Sweethearts:

MOFF SWEETHEARTS

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MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL

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#MQFF30



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THANK YOU

FESTIVAL PLANNER

Time Film Venue

THURSDAY, 12 MARCH 2020

7:00PM Opening Night — Gay Chorus Deep South V

FRIDAY, 13 MARCH 2020

6:30PM The Strong Ones C
6:30PM Bonnie & Bonnie V
6:30PM Anne+ (Lady Liberty Short) N
6:45PM An Almost Ordinary Summer V
7:00PM End Of The Century N
7:15PM Sid & Judy V
8:45PM Rialto C
8:45PM The Sympathy Card V
8:45PM Carmilla N
9:00PM Spiral N
9:00PM The Shiny Shrimps V
9:30PM This Is Not Berlin V

SATURDAY, 14 MARCH 2020

12:00PM Changing The Game N
1:00PM Zen In The Ice Rift N
2:00PM Youth Shorts N
3:00PM 5B V
4:00PM Drag Kids N
4:00PM Tell It To The Bees V
4:30PM Girl On Girl Shorts C
5:00PM Monsoon V
5:15PM House Of Cardin N
6:30PM Guy On Guy Shorts C
6:30PM T11 Incomplete V
7:00PM Sequin In A Blue Room (Stuart Short) V
8:30PM I Miss You C
8:45PM White Lie V
9:15PM The Prince V

SUNDAY, 15 MARCH 2020

1:00PM Distance N
1:15PM Taxi Zum Klo N
2:00PM Pitch, Please! V
3:00PM Queer Japan N
3:15PM Queering The Script + Panel N
3:30PM Margin Of Error (Long Distance Short) V
4:00PM Don't Look Down V
5:15PM 15 Years N
5:30PM Baby Jane V

6:00PM Jonathan Agassi Saved My Life V
6:00PM Out Here Shorts N
7:15PM Roman (St Augustine Short) N
7:30PM Two Of Us N
7:30PM Lizzie V
8:30PM Tremors V

MONDAY, 16 MARCH 2020

6:15PM Ground Beneath My Feet V
6:30PM End Of The Century V
8:30PM Walking With Shadows V
8:45PM Laws Of Desire V

TUESDAY, 17 MARCH 2020

6:15PM Make Up V
6:30PM Fireflies V
6:30PM Headliner — Unsettled N
6:45PM You Don't Nomi N
8:15PM Unsound V
8:30PM Men Of Hard Skin V
8:30PM This Is Not Berlin N
8:45PM Bonnie And Bonnie N
9:00PM Animation Shorts N

WEDNESDAY, 18 MARCH 2020

6:00PM In Conversation (Panel) N
6:15PM Tremors N
6:15PM The Sympathy Card V
6:30PM Young Hunter V
6:30PM Transformations N
6:45PM Sequin In A Blue Room (Stuart Short) N
8:15PM T11 Incomplete V
8:30PM Spiral V
8:30PM XY Chelsea N
8:30PM Don't Look Down N
8:45PM Hooking Up Shorts V

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH 2020

6:30PM Lingua Franca N
6:45PM Laws Of Desire N
7:00PM Centrepiece — And Then We Danced C
8:30PM Brief Story From A Green Planet (Nirvana Short) N
8:45PM White Lie N

FRIDAY, 20 MARCH 2020

6:15PM Tell It To The Bees N
6:30PM The Prince N
6:30PM The Archivettes (Catherine Opie Short) V
6:45PM I Miss You V

8:30PM Baby Jane N
8:45PM Scream Queen!m My Nightmare on Elm Street N
8:45PM Anne+ (Lady Liberty Short) V
9:00PM Jonathan Agassi Saved My Life N
9:15PM The Strong Ones V

SATURDAY, 21 MARCH 2020

1:00PM Girl On Girl Shorts N
1:15PM Guy On Guy Shorts N
3:00PM Margin Of Error (Long Distance Short) N
3:15PM Socrates (Bear In A Fur Coat Short) N
3:30PM Fireflies N
4:00PM Bille And Emma V
4:30PM 15 Years V
4:30PM The Glass Room C
5:00PM Mixtape N
5:15PM Men Of Hard Skin N
5:30PM Documentary Shorts N
6:30PM Rialto V
6:45PM Two Of Us V
7:00PM Comedy Shorts C
7:00PM Make Up N
7:30PM The Shiny Shrimps N
8:30PM Young Hunter V
8:45PM Lizzie V

SUNDAY, 22 MARCH 2020

1:00PM An Almost Ordinary Summer N
1:00PM Olivia N
1:15PM Asia Pacific Shorts N
3:00PM Unsound N
3:15PM Monsoon N
3:15PM Walking With Shadows N
5:00PM Australian Shorts + Awards C
7:30PM Closing Night — Bit C

MONDAY, 23 MARCH 2020

Watch again.

6:30PM Special Encore Screening V
7:00PM Special Encore Screening V
8:30PM Special Encore Screening V
9:00PM Special Encore Screening V

Encore Screenings, proudly presented by ME Bank

V — Village Jam Factory

N — Cinema Nova

C — The Capitol

VISIT MOFF.COM.AU FOR MORE INFORMATION