



14 – 24 NOVEMBER 2024

MELBOURNE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL

FORMATIVE SOUND & VISION

MQFF.COM.AU



“THE GIFT OF SOUND AND VISION”, AS DAVID BOWIE ONCE PUT IT — HAS INSPIRED AND SHAPED QUEERS AND FELLOW TRAVELLERS OF ALL WALKS OF LIFE. INFORMATIVE, PERFORMATIVE, *FORMATIVE* — THIS YEAR’S FESTIVAL WILL BE THE MAKING OF US ALL.

What would LGBTQIA+ culture be without certain, specific, celebrated conjunctions of sound and vision – without lip-synching, ballroom or karaoke? Or without the movie musical, a genre almost synonymous with queer spectatorship and participation? And consider the music video, which in the '80s brought a torrent of queerness into unsuspecting homes the world over, never mind that many of that era's pop stars were closeted at the time. From genesis to the contemporary, this year we'll take a deep dive into hidden-in-plain-sight queer histories formed by the intersections of sound and vision.

ONLY IN THE CITY

FIND WHAT YOU WEREN'T LOOKING FOR

See what's on, from festivals and live music to theatre and comedy. Discover hidden bars down little laneways and indulge in new foodie favourites.



REINA
Swanston St



GOOD HEAVENS ROOFTOP BAR
Bourke St



LEONARDO DA VINCI
The Lume, South Wharf



DOT COMME
Swanston St



YUM SING HOUSE
Sutherland St



ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS
Melbourne



VINTAGE SOLE
Cathedral Arcade



SAN TELMO
Meyers Pl



TINA: THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL
Princess Theatre



SCAN TO SEE WHAT'S ON



CITY OF MELBOURNE

2024 MELBOURNE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL

MELBOURNE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL ACKNOWLEDGES THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LANDS UPON WHICH WE LIVE, WORK AND LEARN, AND PAYS RESPECT TO ELDERS PAST AND PRESENT. WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES' SPIRIT, IMAGINATION AND RICH HISTORY OF STORYTELLING THAT IS AN INSPIRATION TO ALL AUSTRALIANS.

DAVID MARTIN HARRIS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Queers of Australia, if there was ever a year to leap with joyous abandon into the magical waters of the Melbourne Queer Film Festival – to bask in the symphonic, kaleidoscopic splendour of the LGBTQIA+ experience – it is surely this fabulous, fantastical season of 2024. A cornucopia of cinematic and musical delights awaits you, curated with an artistry that both sings to the soul and tickles the intellect. This grand fête is the product of countless brilliant minds and hands, working in perfect concert, like some marvellous rainbow orchestra or, perhaps more accurately, a well-oversized punk band.

Every year, I am struck anew by a truth that remains as steadfast as it is heartwarming: it takes a community to get the glorious monolith that is MQFF off the ground. To our delightful, dedicated staff – Cerise Howard, Bree Davis, Nathan Boadle, Steven Trostli, and Alice Fairweather – I offer boundless thanks for their passion, their energy, and their dazzling intelligence in shaping this year's festival. A special tip of the hat to our esteemed Board of Directors, captained with grace by Co-Presidents Gail Veal and David Micallef, whose guidance and wisdom steer this queer cinematic ship so splendidly. And how could we forget the legions of volunteers, the program panellists, the behind-the-scenes wizards – you are the true heartbeat of MQFF, the soul that keeps the magic alive.

Our mission, as ever, is to change lives through the experience of shared stories – to bring the best of world queer culture to Victoria while nurturing the rise of new Australian voices. This festival serves as both a beacon for international queer cinema and an incubator for homegrown talent, a celebration of our diversity and a catalyst for fresh, vibrant expression.

Of course, this magnificent spectacle would not be possible without the unwavering support of our cherished partners – the City of Melbourne, the Victorian Government, and the City of Stonnington – all of whom champion the very essence of what this festival stands for. To our sponsors, who believe fervently in the power of queer stories and the life-affirming joy they bring, and to our Sweetheart Donors, whose generosity ensures the doors of MQFF remain open to all – you have our deepest gratitude.

This festival is the glorious culmination of the work of thousands of filmmakers and artists, both local and international, carefully crafted to offer the LGBTQIA+ community spaces of joy, connection, and contemplation. These are spaces that are as essential as they are deserved, where we can reflect, celebrate, and be moved.

So, my dear friends, grab your popcorn, settle into your seats, and prepare to be dazzled. I'll see you at the cinema!



CERISE HOWARD

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Hello, Melbourne! I'm feelin' mighty real – how 'bout you?

Inspired by prolific author (and festival guest!) Darryl W. Bullock's book *David Bowie Made Me Gay: 100 Years of LGBT Music*, the theme for the 2024 MQFF is "Formative Sound and Vision".

Yes, we queers have long been hooked to the silver screen, coveting representations and reflections of ourselves, sometimes even only coming out through frisson-filled encounters with kindred spirits on screens big and small.

How apt, this theme, here in Melbourne – after all, the very first music video aired by MTV, The Buggles' "Video Killed the Radio Star", was directed by a gay Melbournean, Russell Mulcahy!

Rock 'n' roll was a revolution initiated by queer folk – notably, by queer people of colour. Everybody now, sing it loud 'n' proud: "Tutti frutti, good booty..." And how better to speak – nay, sing – to that truth than by opening with *Any Other Way: The Jackie Shane Story* – a gorgeous celebration of one of the greatest soul music artistes of the 20th century – never mind that you may never have seen or heard of her before now!

And that's just the opening act of this year's bumper festival, full-to-brimming with films right-on-theme (brand spankin' and classic queer musicals! Music docs! Docs that are also musicals! And an unutterably charming, dialogue-free Centrepiece selection, *Gondola*, which is as ingenious a conjunction of sound with vision as you could conjure up) – all served with the smorgasbord that we're famous for: a world-class spread of the greatest new queer cinema from every which where.

Outside of our cinemas, relish a fierce selection of queer bangers and legendary clips on a video jukebox in the Festival Lounge – and be sure to get on the mic yourselves for karaoke! This year there's also an expanded Industry Day offering to filmmaking up-and-comers and, in an MQFF first: a symposium, "My Formative Queers".

Atop my gratitude to my tireless MQFF colleagues and selection panellists supreme, shout-outs are warranted for these fine folk for getting in cahoots with us this year: The Melbourne Cinémathèque; RMIT academics Patrick Kelly and Stayci Taylor; Industry Day impresari Timothy Despina Marshall, Steph Parsons and Vee Shi; the MQFF house band (Sarah Ward, Bec Matthews, Sofia Chapman, Juvii and... just who was that on bass?) for BRINGING IT at the Program Launch, and to the Cinemaniacs Film Collective, with whom we're staging a tribute to their late, great spearhead, Lee Gambin, with a screening of *Can't Stop the Music*.

Alright – it's time we rock 'n' rolled. See you at the festival!



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Celebrate Australia's largest and longest running queer film festival, right here in the heart of Melbourne.

Congratulations to the festival organisers for once again showcasing the diversity and vibrancy of our community through the people and stories on screen.

Indulge in an exciting program of 42 feature films, 18 documentaries and 12 short films across the 11 days of the festival.



We put our money where our mouth is.

ME proudly supports the LGBTQIA+ community through our partnerships, people and products. Our new rainbow SpendME¹ card donates to Minus18 with every digital tap – and the donations are on ME.



MINUS18

1. Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. This is general information only and you should consider if the product is right for you. ME Bank – a division of Bank of Queensland Limited ABN 32 009 656 740 AFSL and Australian Credit Licence Number 244616.

TICKETS

MQFF IS A REGISTERED CHARITY, AND DONATIONS OVER \$2 ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. PLEASE SUPPORT THE FUTURE OF THE FESTIVAL BY ADDING A DONATION TO YOUR TICKET PURCHASES.

FILM PASSES (IN CINEMA)*

With significant discounts and ease of booking, Film Passes are your passport to a world of queer cinema. Film Passes can be enjoyed by yourself, or shared with friends – there are no limitations on how you use them!

3 FILM PASS

FULL	\$67.00
CONCESSION	\$55.00
MEMBER	\$54.00

6 FILM PASS

FULL	\$129.00
CONCESSION	\$105.50
MEMBER	\$105.00

10 FILM PASS

FULL	\$202.00
CONCESSION	\$166.00
MEMBER	\$165.00

ALL-IN PASS (INCL. ALL SCREENINGS & EVENTS)

FULL	\$350.00
CONCESSION	\$335.00
UNDER 30	\$320.00

SINGLE TICKETS (IN CINEMA)**

SINGLE TICKET (FOR ALL SCREENINGS & EVENTS)

FULL	\$24.50
CONCESSION	\$20.50
MEMBER	\$20.50
GROUPS (10+)	\$20.50

MQFF+ (ONLINE)*

MQFF+ is proudly supported by Origin.

SINGLE TICKET

FULL	\$15.40
CONCESSION	\$12.50
MEMBER	\$13.50
HOUSEHOLD (2+)	\$22.00

3 FILM PASS

FULL	\$36.30
CONCESSION	\$28.10
MEMBER	\$29.70

5 FILM PASS

FULL	\$55.00
CONCESSION	\$41.60
MEMBER	\$44.00

MQFF MEMBERSHIP

Membership offers many benefits, including discounted tickets, early access to book tickets, and an exclusive invite to the annual program launch. Visit mqff.com.au/membership for more information.

MQFF MEMBERSHIP

FULL	\$70.00
CONCESSION	\$60.00
UNDER 30	\$50.00

HOW TO BUY TICKETS

ONLINE

MQFF tickets can be purchased via the MQFF website – mqff.com.au. We strongly encourage you to book online to avoid missing out as sessions may reach full capacity. For detailed information and a complete list of Open Caption and Subtitled screenings, visit mqff.com.au/access.

* BOOKING FEES APPLY (NO BOOKING FEE WHEN REDEEMING YOUR FILM PASS).

** BOOKING FEES APPLY PER TRANSACTION.



PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE LATEST SESSION TIMES. IN RARE INSTANCES, SOME SESSION TIMES MAY CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR OUR LATEST SESSION TIMES.

DOWNLOAD THE APP

Browse and purchase tickets on the official MQFF iPhone or Android app. No printing is required, bring your phone device to be scanned at the door.

PHONE

Call the MQFF phone line during business hours and one of our staff will be able to book your tickets – 0466 643 976. A credit or debit card is required for bookings made via the phone line.

CINEMA BOX OFFICE

Visit our cinema venues during festival hours and speak to one of our friendly staff members who will be able to assist with your ticket purchases. All tickets are subject to availability. A credit or debit card is required for all box office purchases.

ALLOCATED SEATING

All MQFF cinema sessions are allocated seating unless stated at the time of booking. No need for queuing to get the best seats – simply select your preferred seats from the interactive seating map when booking.

BOOKING ONLINE

You can select your tickets via a browser on your desktop or mobile device and select your preferred seats from the interactive seating map.

BOOKING VIA THE MQFF APP

Select your tickets for each session and the app will automatically assign you the best available seats in the house. Want to select your own seats? – we recommend using a web browser on your desktop or mobile device.

CLASSIFICATION

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

CONCESSION TICKETS

Concession tickets are available to people with valid concession cards at time of entry to the cinema. This includes full-time students, pensioners, unwaged, seniors and valid health care card holders.

CONCESSION EARLY BIRD

Be rewarded for acting early! \$12.50 concession tickets will be available from October 18 – 20. Tickets are subject to availability, and ticket buyers must hold a valid concession card to book. Failure to present a valid concession card upon entry will result in needing to purchase a full-price ticket.

BLAKTIX

\$10.50 tickets are available for First Nations people. Available for all sessions and subject to availability.

REFUND 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. Customers may exchange their own tickets via their MQFF account online. Visit mqff.com.au for full terms and conditions.

CONTENT ADVICE

Detailed content advice warnings are located on the accessibility page of the MQFF website: mqff.com.au/access.

Films are tagged with 'Content Advice' throughout this program where potentially triggering content may be featured in a film. Whilst we try to include as much detail as possible in content advice, we encourage audience members to conduct their own research on films as sensitivities vary from person to person. Further information about content and age-appropriateness for specific films can be found on CommonSenseMedia.org, IMDb.com and DoesTheDogDie.com as well as through general internet searches.

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIME VIDEO

OPENING NIGHT | MELBOURNE PREMIERE

ANY OTHER WAY: THE JACKIE SHANE STORY

(2024)
DIR. MICHAEL MABBOTT,
LUCAS ROSENBERG-LEE
99 MIN | CAN | U15+

"A COMPELLING INVESTIGATION OF AN ELUSIVE LIFE, AS WELL AS A TALENT SO STRIKING YOU'LL BE AMAZED IT REMAINED FORGOTTEN FOR SO LONG."

DENNIS HARVEY, *VARIETY*

SESSION TIMES

ACMI.....THUR 14 NOV, 6.30PM @
ACMI.....THUR 14 NOV, 9.15PM

SCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **WHILE WE STILL HAVE TIME**
(DIR: AVA GRIMSHAW-HALL, 16 MINS)

Chances are you've never heard of singer Jackie Shane, a rising star in 1950s Nashville who became a sensation in '60s Toronto, with a huge hit single in *Any Other Way* ("Tell her that I'm happy / Tell her that I'm gay / Tell her I wouldn't have it / Any other way"). However, Shane was to disappear mysteriously from public view for nigh-on 40 years.

From the producers of the Emmy Award-winning *Hip-Hop Evolution* (2016) and Executive Producer Elliot Page comes this stirring, Frameline "Out in the Silence Award"-winning documentary which shares the extraordinary story of a pioneering Black trans performer of exceptional talent and stage presence, who in no way hid her queerness and refused to be anyone but her authentic self.

Sandra Caldwell – who recently shared her own remarkable, previously invisible trans herstory in *Disclosure* (2020) – and Makayla Couture give testimony to Shane's inspirational significance and, beneath beautiful, painterly rotoscoping, embody her too, as we hear from Shane herself in never-before-heard phone conversations. We're also treated to live recordings which leave no doubt that Jackie Shane was one of the greatest soul performers of the 20th century — *period*.



PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIME VIDEO

CENTREPIECE PRESENTATION | MELBOURNE PREMIERE

GONDOLA

"THERE IS A TIMELESS QUALITY TO THE PICTURE, WHICH FEELS MODERN IN ITS LGBTQ+ THEMES BUT UNMOORED FROM THE RELENTLESS CONNECTIVITY OF THE PRESENT DAY."

WENDY IDE, *SCREEN DAILY*

COMEDY



ROMANCE



SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO THUR 21 NOV, 7.00PM

SCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **FALLING FOR GRETA**
(DIR: GUSTAVO ARTEAGA, UK, 11 MINS)

(2023)
DIR. VEIT HELMER
82 MIN | GER, GEO | U15+

Lesbian love language has never assumed quite such whimsically creative dimensions before as in Veit Helmer's unutterably charming, Georgian-set *Gondola* — never mind that there's nary a word spoken throughout the entire film! Iva and Nino are cable car attendants, each assigned to an orange cabin suspended high above the Caucasus Mountains, ever passing in opposite directions. Both have to fend off their ogre-like boss's oafish overtures as they put their energies into devising ever more ingenious ways to advance their mid-air flirtations with one another.

While it mightn't contain dialogue, in any conventional, verbal sense, *Gondola* nonetheless represents a gloriously cinematic fusion of sound and vision, melding an *Amélie*-like sensibility and stunning cinematography to winsome music from Malcolm Arison and Icelandic singer-songwriter Sóley. Nino Soselia and Mathilde Irrmann are note-perfect as the two cable-car attendants; their romantic airborne antics will give you all the lift you need too!

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PRIME VIDEO

CLOSING NIGHT | AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE


DUINO

(2024)
DIR. JUAN PABLO DI PACE, ANDRÉS P. ESTRADA
108 MIN | USA, ARG, ITA | U18+

“ENJOYABLE, TENDER, MOVING, FULL OF DECLARATIONS OF LOVE FOR OUR COUNTRY, AND VERY REMINISCENT OF LUCA GUADAGNINO’S *CALL ME BY YOUR NAME*.”

PINO GAGLIARDI, *THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER*

SESSION TIMES

ACMI.....SUN 24 NOV, 6.30PM 

Hunky Argentinian actor Juan Pablo Di Pace (MQFF 2023 highlight *The Mattachine Family* plus the so-camp-it’s-practically-gay movie musical *Mamma Mia!*) stars in this deeply affecting, semi-autobiographical film that also marks his directorial feature debut, alongside co-writer/director Andrés Pepe Estrada.

Di Pace plays Matías, a filmmaker yearning for the unrequited love of Alexander (Oscar Morgan), the blazingly beautiful teen he fell head over heels for many years ago while studying at an international school on Italy’s luscious Adriatic Coast. Hoping to recapture Alexander’s spirit in his movies, Matías’ sunlit memories take us back to the past, with remarkable newcomer Santiago Madrussan memorably depicting him as a younger man.

Can the secrets of the past unlock love in this dreamy dalliance that won a bunch of awards at Turin’s queer-focused Lovers Film Festival?

DRAMA 

ROMANCE 



AUSTRALIAN SHORTS & AWARDS

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITES BY RATING FILMS ONLINE AT MQFF.COM.AU OR ON THE APP. 97 MIN | U18+

Join us to celebrate the brightest and best Australian queer filmmakers. MQFF's Australian Shorts & Awards highlight the richness of storytelling and the breadth of original talent working in Australia today.

MQFF are proud to present this selection of short films. Following the screening, we will announce the winners of our jury awards.

The winner of the City of Melbourne Award for Best Australian Short will also qualify as MQFF's official selection for the Iris Prize — the largest prize for queer short films worldwide.

FEATURING

- Ballad (DIR: Roe Bonnici)
- Bi Bi Baby (DIR: Betheny A'Vard)
- Bulldog (DIR: Tom Lawrence-Doyle)
- Dames & Sea Smoke (DIR: Aditya Karatagi)
- Die Bully Die (DIR: Nathan Lacey & Nick Lacey)
- Ghosted (DIR: Danni Fenech)
- Hold Still (DIR: Emily Dynes)
- Outpicker (DIR: Le Luo)
- Pleasure (DIR: Jasper Caverly)

AWARD CATEGORIES

THE CITY OF MELBOURNE AWARD	
BEST AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM.....	\$5,000
VICSCREEN AWARD	
BEST DIRECTOR OF AN AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM.....	\$2,500
SHAUN MILLER AWARD	
BEST AUSTRALIAN DOCUMENTARY SHORT.....	\$1,000
MQFF AWARD FOR BEST FIRST FEATURE NARRATIVE	
.....	\$2,500
MQFF AWARD FOR BEST FIRST FEATURE DOCUMENTARY	
.....	\$2,500
MQFF AWARD FOR BEST INTERNATIONAL SHORT FICTION OR DOCUMENTARY	
.....	\$1,000
MQFF AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD	
BEST SHORT FILM.....	\$1,000

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMISAT 23 NOV, 6.00PM

VICSCREEN

PROUDLY SUPPORTING AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST QUEER FILM FESTIVAL

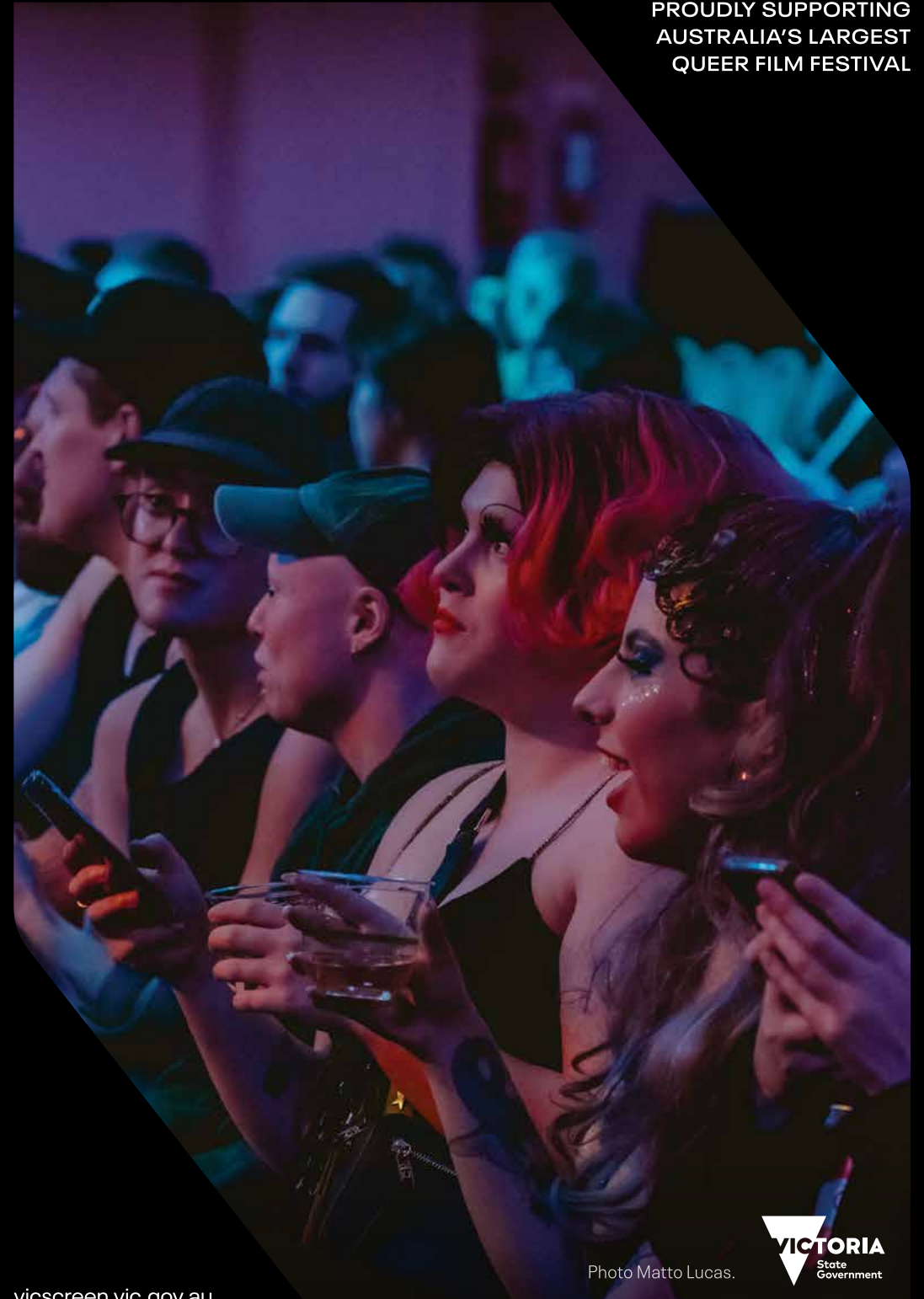


Photo Matto Lucas.

vicscreen.vic.gov.au

ACMI

FEDERATION SQUARE, FLINDERS ST,
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

FOR DETAILED VENUE INFORMATION,
VISIT THE MQFF WEBSITE – MQFF.COM.AU.

Centrally located in Melbourne's bustling arts and entertainment precinct, MQFF will be screening in ACMI Cinema 1 and 2.

FESTIVAL LOUNGE

Stop by the MQFF Festival Lounge at ACMI during festival hours for live entertainment, fabulous music and special public programs. Read about the MQFF Festival Lounge on page 42.

TRANSPORT

Train – Flinders Street Station

Tram – Any Swanston St or St Kilda Rd tram to stop 13.

Or trams on routes 35, 70 or 75 to stop 6.

PRESENTED IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH



IMAGE CREDIT: PHOEBE POWELL

THURSDAY 14 NOV (OPENING NIGHT)

ANY OTHER WAY: THE JACKIE SHANE STORY (CC).....6.30PM
ANY OTHER WAY: THE JACKIE SHANE STORY.....9.15PM

FRIDAY 15 NOV

SOUND OF MUSIC SHORTS.....6.15PM
QUEENS OF DRAMA.....6.30PM
THE ASTRONAUT LOVERS.....8.45PM
CITY OF LOST SOULS.....9.00PM

SATURDAY 16 NOV

HIGH TIDE.....3.45PM
STRANGE CREATURES.....4.00PM
LESVIA.....6.15PM
DALTON'S DREAM.....6.30PM
CROSSING.....8.45PM
ALL SHALL BE WELL.....9.00PM

SUNDAY 17 NOV

CLOSE TO YOU (SENSORY-FRIENDLY SCREENING).....3.45PM
LADY LIKE.....4.00PM
BABY.....6.15PM
A PORTRAIT OF LOVE.....6.15PM
EAT THE NIGHT.....8.45PM
THE QUEEN OF MY DREAMS.....9.00PM

MONDAY 18 NOV

YOUNG HEARTS (SENSORY-FRIENDLY SCREENING).....3.00PM
FRAGMENTS OF A LIFE LOVED.....6.00PM
IN THE ROOM WHERE HE WAITS (CC).....6.00PM
ALL SHALL BE WELL.....8.30PM
BEYOND THE BINARY SHORTS.....8.45PM

TUESDAY 19 NOV

QUEENS OF DRAMA.....3.00PM
MARCELLO MIO.....6.00PM
BACKSPOT (CC).....6.15PM
OUT THERE SHORTS.....8.30PM
CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC.....8.45PM

WEDNESDAY 20 NOV

CARNAGE FOR CHRISTMAS (CC).....6.15PM
JUBILEE.....7.00PM
FREAK OUT! SHORTS.....8.45PM
BLUE.....9.15PM

THURSDAY 21 NOV

WHERE IN THE HELL.....6.00PM
SCARECROW IN A GARDEN OF CUCUMBERS.....8.30PM

FRIDAY 22 NOV

THE SUMMER WITH CARMEN.....6.15PM
BLACK PRIDE SHORTS.....6.30PM
THE BEAUTIFUL SUMMER.....8.45PM
YOUNG SOUL REBELS (CC).....9.00PM

SATURDAY 23 NOV

OUT THERE SHORTS.....3.30PM
ZERO PATIENCE.....4.00PM
AUSTRALIAN SHORTS AND AWARDS.....6.00PM
POWER ALLEY.....6.30PM
MISERICORDIA.....9.00PM
LIFE IS NOT A COMPETITION, BUT I'M WINNING.....9.00PM

SUNDAY 24 NOV

WE FORGOT TO BREAK UP.....1.15PM
THIS IS BALLROOM.....3.45PM
FOREIGN LANGUAGE.....4.00PM

CLOSING NIGHT

DUINO (CC).....6.30PM

THE CAPITOL

113 SWANSTON ST, MELBOURNE VIC 3000

FOR DETAILED VENUE INFORMATION,
VISIT THE MQFF WEBSITE – MQFF.COM.AU.

Centrally located on Melbourne's well-connected Swanston Street, The Capitol Theatre is one Melbourne's most spectacular theatres, complete with an ornate ceiling and stunning Art Deco architecture.

Stop by the Capitol foyer and catch up with fellow cinephiles. The candy bar will be open during The Capitol screenings for food, drinks and social connection.

TRANSPORT

Train – Flinders Street Station, short walk up Swanston Street.

Tram – Any Swanston St or St Kilda Rd tram to stop 11.



IMAGE CREDIT: TATJANA PLITT

FRIDAY 15 NOV

BALDIGA – UNLOCKED HEART.....6.15PM
THE VISITOR.....8.45PM

SATURDAY 16 NOV

A HOUSE IS NOT A DISCO.....6.15PM
THE SUMMER WITH CARMEN.....8.45PM

SUNDAY 17 NOV

LINDA PERRY: LET IT DIE HERE.....6.15PM
NATIONAL ANTHEM.....8.45PM

WEDNESDAY 20 NOV

THE ASTRONAUT LOVERS.....6.00PM
BABY.....8.45PM

THURSDAY 21 NOV

EAT THE NIGHT.....6.00PM
MISERICORDIA.....8.30PM

FRIDAY 22 NOV

TEACHES OF PEACHES.....6.15PM
THE VISITOR.....8.45PM

SATURDAY 23 NOV

GAY CHORUS DEEP SOUTH.....3.45PM
REAS.....6.15PM

SUNDAY 24 NOV

DEMONS AT DAWN.....1.15PM
DOPPELGÄNGERS³.....4.00PM

CINEMA NOVA

380 LYGON STREET, CARLTON VIC 3053
FOR DETAILED VENUE INFORMATION,
VISIT THE MQFF WEBSITE – MQFF.COM.AU.

Just a short tram ride or walk from Melbourne CBD. Stop by the Cinema Nova Bar & Kitchen for all your pre-show drinks and snacks.

Cinema Nova will be screening MQFF in Cinemas 8 and 9.

TRANSPORT

Tram – Any Swanston Street tram to stop 1 or route 1 or route 6 to stop 112.



SATURDAY 16 NOV

LOVE IS LOVE SHORTS.....	1.00PM
DESIRE LINES (CC).....	1.15PM
NANEKAWĀSIS.....	3.15PM
TURTLES.....	3.30PM

SUNDAY 17 NOV

WIDE HORIZONS SHORTS.....	1.00PM
QUEERAMA.....	1.15PM
THROUPLE.....	3.15PM
LITTLE RICHARD: I AM EVERYTHING (CC).....	3.30PM
I AM WHAT I AM.....	5.30PM
QUEER LIVES SHORTS.....	5.45PM

THURSDAY 21 NOV

CROSSING (CC).....	6.15PM
CLOSE TO YOU.....	8.30PM

SATURDAY 23 NOV

LESVIA.....	1.00PM
THE LIFE OF SEAN DELEAR.....	1.15PM
NANEKAWĀSIS.....	3.15PM
THE QUEEN OF MY DREAMS (CC).....	3.30PM

SUNDAY 24 NOV

LADY LIKE.....	1.00PM
BACKSPOT.....	1.15PM
CARNAGE FOR CHRISTMAS.....	3.15PM
SINGLE, OUT: SEASON 3.....	3.30PM

PALACE CINEMA COMO

THE COMO CENTRE, TOORAK RD & CHAPEL ST,
SOUTH YARRA VIC 3141

FOR DETAILED VENUE INFORMATION,
VISIT THE MQFF WEBSITE – MQFF.COM.AU.

Located in South Yarra's prestigious Como Centre and conveniently positioned along the iconic Chapel St strip. Visit the well-stocked candy bar pre-show for gourmet snacks and drinks.

Palace Cinema Como will be screening MQFF in Cinemas 3 and 5.

TRANSPORT

Train – South Yarra Station is a short walk along Toorak Road.
Tram – Route 58 to stop number 128. Or Route 78 to stop 50.

PRESENTED IN
PARTNERSHIP WITH



City of
STONNINGTON

FRIDAY 15 NOV

HEART OF THE MAN.....	6.15PM
THIS IS BALLROOM.....	6.30PM
THROUPLE (CC).....	8.45PM
WHERE IN THE HELL.....	9.00PM

SATURDAY 16 NOV

OUT(LOOK) SHORTS.....	6.15PM
YOUNG HEARTS.....	6.30PM
RIVIÈRE.....	8.45PM
WE ARE FAMILY SHORTS.....	9.00PM

WEDNESDAY 20 NOV

REAS.....	6.15PM
ONE WORLD SHORTS.....	8.45PM
POWER ALLEY.....	9.00PM

THURSDAY 21 NOV

CENTREPIECE	
GONDOLA.....	7.00PM

FRIDAY 22 NOV

KUCH SAPNEY APNE.....	6.15PM
A HOUSE IS NOT A DISCO (CC).....	6.30PM
MARCELLO MIO.....	9.00PM
FRAGMENTS OF A LIFE LOVED.....	9.00PM





MELBOURNE PREMIERE

TURTLES

(2023)
DIR. DAVID LAMBERT
83 MIN | BEL, CAN | U15+

Turtles is set in the cosy Brussels nest of over-60s Thom (Dave Johns) and Henri (Olivier Gourmet), two peas in a pod – or so it seems. Henri, a recently retired cop, is becoming bored with domesticities with stay-at-home hubby Thom, the optimist of the pair, who is nonetheless increasingly wary of Henri's aloof behaviour (and time on dating apps) feeding the growing cracks in the relationship.

When Thom brings home a hook-up from the local pool, Henri soon follows suit and adds a dog to the rift (triggering Thom's allergies), and as things escalate, Thom petitions for a divorce. But who is entitled to keep the house, left to them years before by a late friend? And who the

pair of turtles, Topsy and Turvy, that came with it? Indignities and co-dependence aside, this is not the usual marriage/divorce narrative but a tender and thoughtfully paced examination of what happens to love as it ages.

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA.....SAT 16 NOV, 3.30PM

COMEDY 😊 DRAMA 💧



THE BEAUTIFUL SUMMER

(2023)
DIR. LAURA LUCHETTI
111 MIN | ITA | U15+

If the sun has felt like it's been a long time coming lately, warm your weary bones with director Laura Luchetti's effervescently loose adaptation of the proud (and persecuted) antifascist author Cesare Pavese's novel of the same name. Set in Turin in 1938, with the spectre of war not far off, it follows country girl Ginia (excellent newcomer Yile Yara Vianello) as she lands in the big city and, sharing an apartment with her big brother Severino (*Nudes* actor Nicolas Maupas), scores a gig as a seamstress at a fashion house. But life's turned upside-down the moment she first spies the vibrant Amelia (Deva Cassel, daughter of Monica Bellucci and Vincent Cassel), following her into a bohemian world of artists where anything and anyone is fair game, in this audience favourite from the Locarno Film Festival.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI.....FRI 22 NOV, 8.45PM

COMING OF AGE 🎒 ROMANCE 💕



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

THE VISITOR

(2024)
DIR. BRUCE LABRUCE
101 MIN | UK | U18+

Arguably Canadian cinema's most anarchic agent provocateur, *The Misanthrist* director Bruce LaBruce has been blasting his punk art porn visions into the universe's most chaotically-inclined cinemas (or grubby VHS players) since the '80s. Sometimes they don't make it: *L.A. Zombie* was struck from the 2010 Melbourne International Film Festival by overzealous censors. Thankfully, his latest eye-popper snuck in the backdoor unassailed. A sacrilegious exhumation of the still-warm corpse of fellow queer button-pushing pioneer Pier Paolo Pasolini's *Teorema* (1968), this new crotch twist shifts the engorged drama from Italy to contemporary London, where Bishop Black's eponymous Visitor emerges naked from a suitcase as a refugee who soon invites themselves into a filthy rich, binary-bending family's mansion, seducing them to the cause one-by-horny-one. This NSFW fury was up for the Teddy Best Feature Award at this year's Berlinale.

"BRILLIANTLY DEPRAVED... IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE ANYONE BETTER SUITED TO STICKING TWO MIDDLE FINGERS UP AT CONTEMPORARY BRITAIN THAN LABRUCE"

DAVID OPIE, *INDIEWIRE*

SESSION TIMES

THE CAPITOL.....FRI 15 NOV, 8.45PM
THE CAPITOL.....FRI 22 NOV, 8.45PM

COMEDY 😊

CONTENT ADVICE:

This film contains flashing images. See page 5 or the Accessibility page on the MQFF website.



MELBOURNE PREMIERE
QUEENS OF DRAMA

(2024)
DIR. ALEXIS LANGLOIS
115 MIN | FRA, BEL | U15+

French music video director Alexis Langlois makes his feature film debut with *Queens of Drama*, a hyperkinetic musical comedy set during the timeless 2000s with a cutesy and camp pop star plot. Follow the hottest new fresh pop diva in the French music world, Mimi Madamour (Louiza Aura) as her reality TV rise to fame places strain upon her hectic and heated relationship with punk idol Billie Kolher (Gio Ventura). The music world may appear to be all glitz and glam, but for these two musicians (and one obsessive fan, played by singer and YouTuber Bilal Hassani), it's a rollercoaster ride, and frequently a full-blown psychodrama! With performances from *Drag Race Belgium* season 1's Drag Couenne, Thomas Poitevin, Alma Jodorowsky and Asia Argento, this Cannes Critics' Week selection is one you won't want to miss.

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI FRI 15 NOV, 6.30PM
ACMI TUE 19 NOV, 3.00PM**
****UNDER 25YRS SCREENING – \$5.00 TICKETS**

MUSICAL 🎵 **DRAMA** 💧



MELBOURNE PREMIERE
THE ASTRONAUT LOVERS

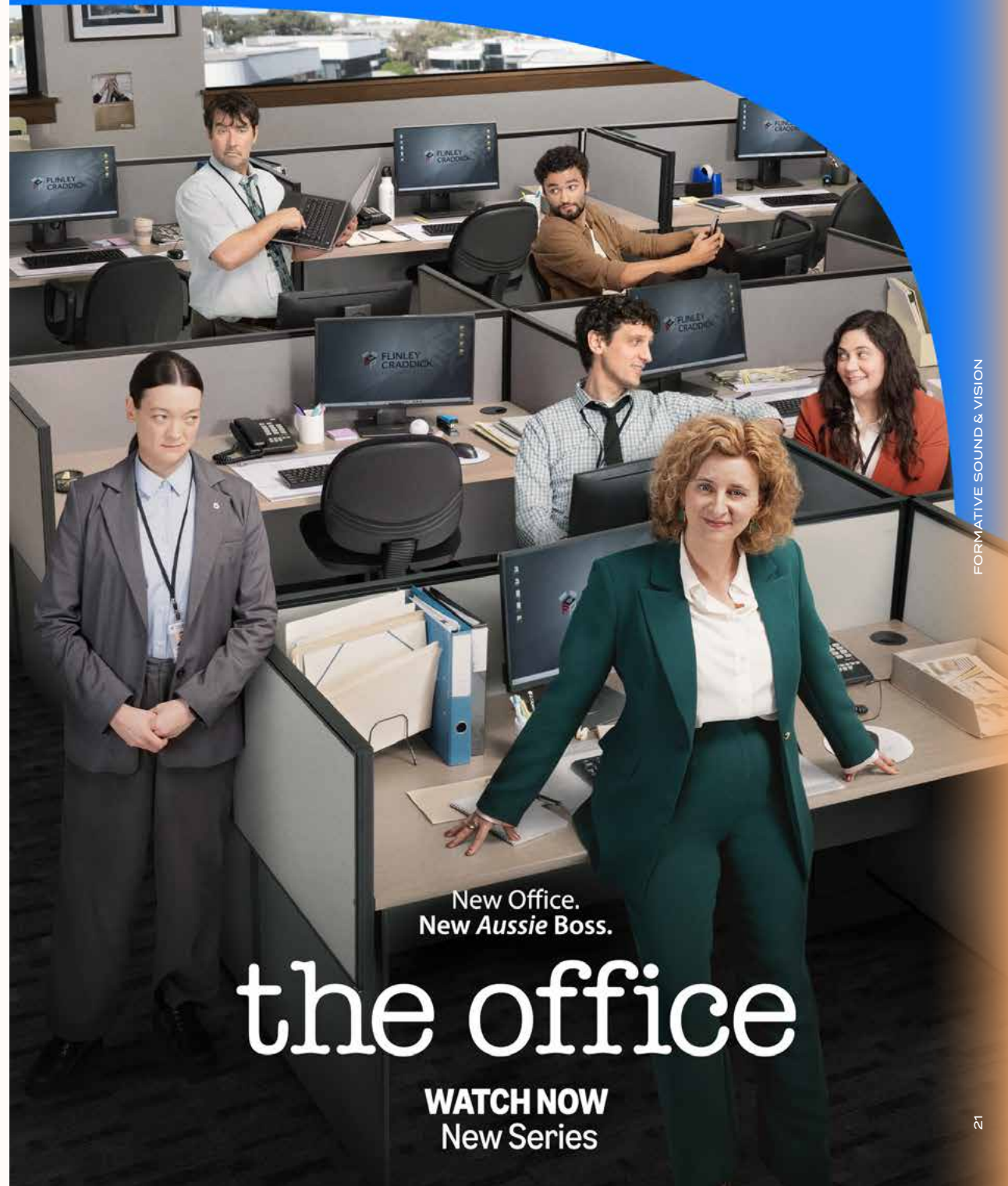
(2024)
DIR. MARCO BERGER
116 MIN | ARG, ESP | U15+

SESSION PROUDLY SPONSORED BY HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS.
Teddy Award-winning director Marco Berger (*Horseplay*, MQFF 2022) returns to the queer film festival circuit to continue his focus on masculinity and lust between men with his latest feature, *The Astronaut Lovers*. Pedro (Javier Orán) travels to the Argentinian coast to spend time with old friends, including recently single Maxi (Lautaro Bettoni). While Maxi is vehemently straight, he is fascinated by Pedro's queerness — and there surely is quite some chemistry between them. This playfulness between the two men soon shifts as Maxi sets out to make his ex-girlfriend jealous. Can Pedro keep track of what's real between Maxi and him, and what's just a bit of fun — is theirs a romance, a bromance or faux-mance?

Be sure not just to catch *The Astronaut Lovers*, but also a provocative new Marco Berger short, *The Exchange*, in our "Out There" shorts package!

SESSION TIMES
ACMI FRI 15 NOV, 8.45PM
THE CAPITOL WED 20 NOV, 6.00PM

DRAMA 💧 **COMEDY** 😄



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THE SUMMER WITH CARMEN

(2023)
DIR. ZACHARIAS MAVROEIDIS
106 MIN | GRC | U18+

While enjoying a slow, hot oceanside day on the edge of a cliff near a queer spot in Athens, two thirty-something besties recall the events of a previous summer with a dog named Carmen. They brainstorm a script that aspiring filmmaker Nikitas has promised to turn in imminently. The endearing Demosthenes offers to help but as they knuckle out the details, a funny, sexy, kind-hearted feat ensues. Zacharias Mavroeidis' charmingly meta comedy is lovingly shot on location with a fantastically cute pooch performance, and the two charming leads, Yorgos Tsiantoulas and Andreas Lampropoulos, are wholly convincing as long-time mates.

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

"PROOF THAT QUEER CINEMA HAS MUCH MORE TO OFFER THAN COMING-OUT STORIES AND SOBERING LOVE NARRATIVES."

GEORGIA KOROSI, *BFI*

SESSION TIMES
THE CAPITOL SAT 16 NOV, 8.45PM
ACMI FRI 22 NOV, 6.15PM

COMEDY 😊

HEART OF THE MAN

(2024)
DIR. DAVID COOK
84 MIN | AUS | M

SESSION PROUDLY SPONSORED BY PRIDE FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA.

Queer Australian First Nations filmmaking is rare, so this directorial debut, featuring a predominantly LGBTQIA+ and Aboriginal cast, is cause for celebration. Chris Wundurra (Parker Little) is pushed by his father, Sammy (writer-director David Cook), to train for the national boxing title he didn't himself attain, a failure connected to tragic events that robbed Chris of his mother and Sammy his wife. Sammy encounters resistance, however, when Chris starts to question his sexuality and finds himself more oriented towards treading the boards than boxing.

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
PALACE CINEMA COMO FRI 15 NOV, 6.15PM

DRAMA 💧



WE FORGOT TO BREAK UP

(2024)
DIR. KAREN KNOX
94 MIN | CAN | U15+

We're gonna party like it's 1999 in this musically charged Canadian feature that spans the turn of the millennium. Trans man Angus (Jordan Dawson) navigates a day job and his transition while rehearsing late nights in the Canadian town of Emmett Lake alongside his indie bandmates, including girlfriend Isis (June Laporte). Moving to Toronto and gaining momentum as The New Normals, temptation awaits in the form of new guitarist Lugh (Daniel Gravelle). Can Angus balance being true to himself with the pressures of fame, or is a breakup of the band inevitable? This bracingly authentic feature from director Karen Knox, is adapted from Kayt Burgess' award-winning book *Heidegger Stairwell*.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI SUN 24 NOV, 1.15PM

DRAMA 💧



ZERO PATIENCE

(1993)
DIR. JOHN GREYSON
100 MIN | UK, CAN | MA15+

SESSION PROUDLY SPONSORED BY THORNE HARBOUR HEALTH.

Canadian New Queer Cinema luminary John Greyson's audacious 1993 musical about the AIDS pandemic imagines an encounter between Victorian-era explorer and sexologist, Sir Richard Burton (John Robinson) and the hot ghost of "Patient Zero" (Normand Fauteux), in order to debunk a widely propagated myth that a French Canadian flight attendant wilfully introduced the virus to North America. Greyson queers all norms of tone and genre, fusing experimental cinema, documentary sequences involving ACT UP activists relating their lived experiences of AIDS, and high-camp musical numbers, inclusive of a little Busby Berkeley-esque synchronised swimming... and singing anuses.

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI SAT 23 NOV, 4.00PM

MUSICAL 🎵



JUBILEE

(1978)
DIR. DEREK JARMAN
106 MIN | UK | M

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MELBOURNE CINÉMATHEQUE.

In this film, satirically named for the 25th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation, crime, revolution and disorder are cast against a stiflingly conservative nation. Derek Jarman's portrait of a crumbling monarchy includes vivid images of London's grand icons alongside rubble-strewn areas of the city, markers of the Blitz over three decades earlier. Influenced by the aesthetics and anti-establishment stance of punk, this messy, thrilling satire is the movement's perfect incarnation and includes appearances and music by Siouxsie and the Banshees, the Slits, Jayne County, Toyah Wilcox, Adam Ant and Brian Eno.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI WED 20 NOV, 7:00PM



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

I AM WHAT I AM

(2022)
DIR. SHINYA TAMADA
104 MIN | JPN | U15+

In Shinya Tamada's quietly touching new feature, call-centre employee and former cellist Kasumi (Tōko Miura, star of Ryusuke Hamaguchi's *Drive My Car*) struggles to fit in with her peers and the norms of mainstream Japanese societal expectations as she grapples with her asexual identity. Her mother, concerned by Kasumi's lack of interest in marriage, takes her to a matchmaking service, which sets off a journey of self-actualisation. This gentle film deals not only with culturally specific issues of queer identity but is also universal in its themes of belonging and alienation.

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA SUN 17 NOV, 5:30PM



BLUE

(1993)
DIR. DEREK JARMAN
79 MIN | UK, JPN | U15+

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MELBOURNE CINÉMATHEQUE.

Dedicated to his partner Keith Collins "and all true lovers", Jarman's last feature is a singularly poetic and affecting account of living and dying with AIDS. Famously, in acknowledgment of, and in meditation upon, his failing eyesight, the image consists wholly, unflinchingly, of a hue as close to "International Klein Blue" as could be captured on film. John Quentin, Nigel Terry, Tilda Swinton and Jarman himself read excerpts from the director's hospital diaries and recite his poetry, atop an immersive soundscape created by Simon Fisher Turner, amongst others.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI WED 20 NOV, 9:15PM



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

KUCH SAPNEY APNE

(2024)
DIR. SRIDHAR RANGAYAN,
SAAGAR GUPTA
120 MIN | IND | U15+

Co-writer/director duo Sridhar Rangayan and Saagar Gupta return for the follow up to their 2018 award-winning hit *Evening Shadows* with this big-hearted international melodrama showcasing contemporary Indian filmmaking. Kartik (Satvik Bhatia) and Aman (Arpit Chaudhary) are in a closeted relationship unbeknownst to their respective families. When Kartik moves overseas to study, he has a fling with an amorous local, Stefan (Theodor Wickenbergh), which sends shockwaves through their relationship. Tackling themes of love, family, bigotry and acceptance knows no borders — *Kuch Sapney Apne* is big on drama, big on songs and, most of all, big on heart.

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO FRI 22 NOV, 6:15PM



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

NATIONAL ANTHEM

(2023)
DIR. LUKE GILFORD
99 MIN | USA | U18+

SESSION PROUDLY SPONSORED BY UNITED AIRLINES.

DTwenty-one year old Dylan (the excellent Charlie Plummer from *Lean on Pete*) lives an isolated life of routine in rural New Mexico, working odd construction jobs to help support his little brother and a somewhat absent mother. He accepts a gig working at House of Splendor, a queer ranch a little further out than normal. There he meets the luminous Sky (Eve Lindley) and a diverse group of queer folk who provide him with the space and freedom to explore parts of himself he hasn't yet found. Premiering at SXSW 2023, the gorgeous debut feature film from photographer Luke Gilford — think *Them's Love Lies Bleeding* photo series with Kristen Stewart and Katy O'Brian — expertly pairs himself with one-to-watch cinematographer Katelin Arizmendi to sprinkle no small amount of queer joy upon the rural Southwest, boosted by a swooning soundtrack featuring Perfume Genius and Devotchka's Nick Urata.

"THE MOST MOVING THING ABOUT **NATIONAL ANTHEM** IS [...] THAT THERE IS NOTHING SURPRISING OR EXTRAORDINARY ABOUT QUEER PEOPLE RIDING HORSES OR WALKING THROUGH THE AISLES OF A RURAL DEPARTMENT STORE."

SAMANTHA ALLEN, *THEM*

SESSION TIMES

THE CAPITOL SUN 17 NOV, 8:45PM





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MELBOURNE PREMIERE

STRANGE CREATURES

(2024)
DIR. HENRY BOFFIN
87 MIN | AUS | U15+

Nate (*Metro Sexual* star Riley Nottingham) is a proud pansexual man who used to be close with his big brother Ged (*Wellmania's* Johnny Carr), but the siblings haven't spoken in years. Summoned to suburban Melbourne to celebrate their mum's birthday, she promptly dies overnight and they're forced to work things out on a road trip back to the remote northern NSW town where they grew up, so they can scatter her ashes. Good job Nate's boyfriend Blake (Declan Clifford) is a funeral director who can lend them a hearse.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI SAT 16 NOV, 4.00PM



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

RIVIÈRE

(2023)
DIR. HUGUES HARICHE
105 MIN | CHE, FRA | U15+

Manon (Flavie Delangle), 17, has hitchhiked out of Switzerland to the French town of Belfort in search of her estranged dad. The hunt leads her to an ice rink and a chance encounter with a group of teens where she is admitted to play ice hockey, with the guys. Staying at her stepmother's, Manon is hopeful her father will return and in the meantime plays hockey and hangs out with Karine (Sarah Bramms), a figure skater who struggles with addiction. The two get closer and find the few happy moments are with one another. With absent or missing parents, *Rivière* joins the cinema of generational, teen resilience in this moving, queer coming-of-age story.

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO SAT 16 NOV, 8.45PM



CITY OF LOST SOULS

(1983)
DIR. ROSA VON PRAUNHEIM
94 MIN | FRG | U15+

This riotous, intersectional queer New Wave musical is centred around a squalid Berlin burger joint and the ragtag group of multiracial Americans, of a range of gender identities and sexual persuasions, who work there. Rosa von Praunheim's underground classic is equal parts Paul Morrissey-Andy Warhol, John Waters and *Rocky Horror*, with lashings of satirical Cold War intrigue, searing political commentary and regular demolitions of the fourth wall. Punk rock icon Jayne County (also to be seen and heard in *Jubilee*) and legendary drag performer Angie Stardust lead the cast.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI FRI 15 NOV, 9.00PM





MELBOURNE PREMIERE
CARNAGE FOR CHRISTMAS

(2024)
DIR. ALICE MAIO MACKAY
70 MIN | AUS | U15+

Australian filmmaker and extraordinary trans woman Alice Maio Mackay is an unstoppably anarchic punk powerhouse, pumping fiercely queer horror movies out at a rate that would make even the late, great Rainer Werner Fassbinder look a little lazy tbh. She had a double bill in last year's MQFF program – *Satranic Panic* and *T-Blockers* – and has another wild ride ready for us in *Carnage for Christmas*, edited by none other than Vera Drew (*The People's Joker*). Hallmark could never, as true-crime podcaster Lola (Jeremy Moineau) returns to her country town for the first time since transitioning only to Miss Marple that shit when a sick Santa-costumed serial killer lets loose on the local LGBTQIA+ community. Only the murderer picked the wrong folks to mess with, in a sass-packed slasher where the final girl and her gang fight back like it's brat summer.

CONTENT ADVICE:
This film contains flashing images. Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI.....WED 20 NOV, 6.15PM **CC**
CINEMA NOVA.....SUN 24 NOV, 3.15PM

SCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **BODY-ODDY-ODDY-ODDY: DESTABILIZING THE SURVEILLING OF QUEER BODIES** (BENJAMIN ROSENTHAL, ERIC SOUTHER, USA, 9 MINS)

HORROR



FOREIGN LANGUAGE

(2024)
DIR. CLAIRE BURGER
105 MIN | FRA, GER, BEL | U15+

Set in those heady teenage days when our collective hearts are a mess of brave and bewildering new ideas and the overwhelming thrum of emerging sexuality, 17-year-old Fanny (on-the-up French actor Lilith Grasmug) is lost at sea. Or, more specifically, on an ad hoc foreign exchange with the family of her German pen-friend Lena (Josefa Heinsius). Only the welcome isn't exactly friendly, at first, for a young woman who's already feeling isolated thanks to relentless bullying at school. But things get complicated quickly when nascent longings emerge between the pair, who also throw themselves into activist awakenings. All the while, Lena's on-the-edge divorcée mum (*Tár* star Nina Hoss) bristles as she opens another bottle in a host family that's kind of all over the place. Claire Burger's profoundly generous third feature was nominated for both the Golden Bear and the Teddy Best Feature Award at the Berlinale. With Chiara Mastroianni.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI.....SUN 24 NOV, 4.00PM

SCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **FORZA, REA!** (DIR: ISABEL PAHUD, ISABEL CLERICI, LAURA ZIMMERMANN, POLINA TYRSA, SWITZERLAND, 3 MINS)

DRAMA **ROMANCE**

MELBOURNE PREMIERE
POWER ALLEY

(2023)
DIR. LILLAH HALLA
99 MIN | BRA, FRA, URY | U18+

Menarca filmmaker Lillah Halla returned to the Cannes Film Festival with this electro dance music-driven story about a promising young volleyball player facing down the patriarchy in São Paulo. Sofia (Ayomi Domenica Dias) is on the cusp of making it big, with the Youth Volleyball Contest on the horizon. Things are going well with girlfriend and fellow teammate Bel (Loro Bardot), too, when she discovers that she's pregnant in a conservative country where women do not have the choice of a legal abortion. Everything spirals from there in this bracing drama that was nominated for Cannes' Queer Palm, and won the FIPRESCI Parallel Sections Award.

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
PALACE CINEMA COMO.....WED 20 NOV, 9.00PM
ACMI.....SAT 23 NOV, 6.30PM

DRAMA



MISERICORDIA

(2024)
DIR. ALAIN GUIRAUDIE
103 MIN | FRA | U18+

Misericordia sees *Stranger by the Lake* writer/director Alain Guiraudie return to form, casting Félix Kysyl as Jérémie who returns to the village of his youth to pay his respects to the baker who once employed him, and with whom he was perhaps in love. Sometime best friend Vincent (Jean-Baptiste Durand) isn't so pleased to see him, acting standoffish when Jérémie asks to stay with his grieving mother (the magnificent Catherine Frot) and shows no signs of leaving. All the while, the village's various men begin to jostle for the outsider's attention in an unnervingly erotic tale that leads to skullduggery.

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
THE CAPITOL.....THUR 21 NOV, 8.30PM
ACMI.....SAT 23 NOV, 9.00PM

DRAMA **COMEDY**



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE
WHERE IN THE HELL

(2024)
DIR. LARAMIE DENNIS
87 MIN | USA | U15+

lesbian prop-master Casey (Cam Killion) is abandoned by her girlfriend after a fight at a run-down motel, at the height of COVID-19 lockdowns in California. What's worse, her girlfriend has taken not only her car, but her dog as well. She teams up with unemployed actor Alan (Joohun Lee) on a road trip to an audition in Canada. Casey is bitterly cynical while Alan is blindingly optimistic, making for a hilarious odd-couple road movie. Laramie Dennis's laidback debut will delight fans of offbeat indie comedies, reminiscent of the works of Hal Hartley and Alison Anders.

SESSION TIMES
PALACE CINEMA COMO.....FRI 15 NOV, 9.00PM
ACMI.....THUR 21 NOV, 6.00PM

COMEDY **DRAMA**



YOUNG SOUL REBELS

(1991)
DIR. ISAAC JULIEN
105 MIN | UK, FRA, GER, ESP | U15+

It's London in 1977, in the days leading up to Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee celebrations. Soul boys Chris (Valentine Nonyela) and Caz (Mo Sesay) run a pirate radio station, "Soul Patrol", from an East End garage, when not running the gauntlet of the neighbourhood boover boys. Their lives are upturned when a close friend is murdered while cruising in the local park. This riveting, Cannes Critics' Week prize-winning, coming-of-age whodunnit remains a landmark Black British queer film. And the soundtrack is *fantastic*, featuring Funkadelic, X-Ray Spex, Parliament, Sylvester and more.

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI.....FRI 22 NOV, 9.00PM **CC**

DRAMA





MELBOURNE PREMIERE
YOUNG HEARTS

(2024)
DIR. ANTHONY SCHATTEMAN
97 MIN | BEL, NLD | U15+

For families frustrated by the Australian federal government's backflipping on protecting queer kids from being removed from schools on the basis of their sexual or gender identity, seek solace in the sweet-hearted debut feature from Belgian filmmaker Anthony Schatteman. It follows the tentative first steps out of the closet of 14-year-old Elias (Lou Goossens) as he falls head over heels for handsome new neighbour Alexander (Marius De Saeger) despite technically still dating girlfriend Valerie (Sara Rogiers). Garnering a special mention in the Berlinale's youth-focused Generation Kplus competition and nominated for a Teddy Award, this gently unfurling romance was co-written by Close director Lukas Dhont but won't leave you emotionally ruined. Instead, it offers a metaphorical hug for the soul with a hint of *Heartstopper*.

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO SAT 16 NOV, 6.30PM

ACMI (SENSORY-FRIENDLY SCREENING)..... MON 18 NOV, 3.00PM*

* UNDER 25YRS SCREENING - \$5.00 TICKETS



ALL SHALL BE WELL

(2024)
DIR. RAY YEUNG
95 MIN | HK, CHN | U15+

All too often, goodwill evaporates when someone dies without leaving clear instructions for their last wishes. For queer couples who choose not to marry, or are forbidden to do so, the risk of relatives swooping in and brushing them aside is even greater. So it is in *Suk Suk* director Ray Yeung's latest emotional rollercoaster. Once again working with Hong Kong actress Patra Au Ga-man, alongside Maggie Li Lin-lin, they depict sixty-something couple Angie and Pat. But when tragedy strikes quietly, family drama erupts over the prime real estate home they share. Drawing on all-too-familiar truths, this beautifully judged portrait of resilience and resistance is both feminist, reminiscent of *A Fantastic Woman's* mission, and proudly anti-ageist too. Picking up the Teddy Award for Best Feature Film at the Berlinale (with Program Director Cerise Howard on the jury) and the Audience Award at Frameline, it's a winner.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI SAT 16 NOV, 9.00PM

ACMI MON 18 NOV, 8.30PM



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AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

REAS

(2024)
DIR. LOLA ARIAS
82 MIN | ARG, GER, CHE | U15+

One of the most magical movies to berth at this year's Berlinale — where it was nominated for the Teddy Documentary award — Lola Arias' form-fracturing marvel is magnificently queer in every way imaginable. This shimmering chameleon of a multicoloured docu-musical features former prisoners depicting not only versions of themselves, but also their jailers. Skipping gaily between the real and imagined, it happily breaks the fourth wall and pulls back the curtain to cheekily include bloopers, script-in-hand. Set in an artfully crumbling, shuttered prison in Buenos Aires that evokes their prolonged captivity in Caseros Prison, a remnant of the rolling military dictatorships of the '60s, it's a surreally neon-hued stage on which this delightfully diverse array of cis women and trans people come together in a fabulous fever dream set to a disco beat replete with smooth Ballroom moves. Emancipation has rarely felt this astoundingly empowering.

"PROUDLY QUEER, REAS ESTABLISHES ITSELF AS A CINEMATOGRAPHIC EXPERIMENT ENDOWED WITH HUMANISM; A PLAYFUL AND EMPOWERING LOOK AT THOSE TYPICALLY MARGINALIZED BY SOCIETY."

NILTON ARANA TORRES, *CINENCUENTRO*

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO WED 20 NOV, 6:15PM
THE CAPITOL SAT 23 NOV, 6:15PM

MUSICAL DOC

CAN'T STOP THE MUSIC

(1980)
DIR. NANCY WALKER
124 MIN | USA | PG

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CINEMANIACS.

By the summer of 1979, there were loud proclamations that disco was dead, with thousands turning up to a Disco Demolition Night protest, burning vinyl and chanting "Disco Sucks". The various kink-attired lads of the Village People did not get the memo, releasing their Y.M.C.A. — powered big screen adventure *Can't Stop the Music* the very next year. We reckon they had the last laugh, with this denim hot pants and cropped T-shirt-sporting ripple-of-muscular-male-bodies musical — directed by *Girl Crazy* star Nancy Walker — the gloriously bonkers result.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI TUE 19 NOV, 8:45PM

MUSICAL BIOPIC COMEDY



CROSSING

(2024)
DIR. LEVAN AKIN
105 MIN | SWE, DNK, TUR, FRA, GEO | U18+

Cat lovers, assemble! Our feline friends are delightfully distracting co-stars in this luminous Istanbul-set voyage of discovery from *And Then We Danced* director Levan Akin. Georgian stalwart Mzia Arabuli stars as Lia, a grieving older woman who sets off for the continents-spanning city in the hopes of reuniting with her estranged trans niece, with barely any leads. Grudgingly accepting the support of goofy younger lad Achi (newcomer Lucas Kankava), they eventually team up with staunch trans woman and community lawyer Evrim (Deniz Dumanli), in a mesmerising Teddy Jury Award-winning adventure.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI SAT 16 NOV, 8:45PM
CINEMA NOVA THUR 21 NOV, 6:15PM

DRAMA



DEMONS AT DAWN

(2024)
DIR. JULIÁN HERNÁNDEZ
136 MIN | MEX | U18+

It's almost 20 years since Julián Hernández threw open the doors of queer Mexican cinema with *Broken Sky* (2006), and he delivers flawless and fluid bodies, oozing with sexiness once again with *Demons at Dawn*. Dance student Orlando doesn't want for admirers and sexual conquests, so the realisation that he's falling for straight-ish nursing student Marco sparks a growing fear of love itself. With the eye of regular DoP Alejandro Cantú, their romance is exquisitely visually constructed, elevating the clichés of gay love to a swirling, obsessive, passionate dance.

SESSION TIMES

THE CAPITOL SUN 24 NOV, 1:15PM

DRAMA



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

(1972)
DIR. ROBERT J. KAPLAN
82 MIN | USA | U18+

SCARECROW IN A GARDEN OF CUCUMBERS

Rivalling *City of Lost Souls* for the mantle of campiest, most unhinged musical in this year's festival, *Scarecrow in a Garden of Cucumbers* was restored by the Academy Film Archive in 2022 after scarcely being seen since premiering 50 years prior. Presumed lost for much of that time, it now rates as one of the greatest queer film rediscoveries in many a long year. How on Earth did something so brilliantly, ceaselessly bonkers as this, and so much fun to watch with a crowd, ever retreat into obscurity?

In one of the earliest lead roles granted to a trans performer, Warhol Superstar Holly Woodlawn (seen in Paul Morrissey's *Trash* and *Women in Revolt!*) puts in a riotous turn as small-town girl Eve Harrington, who quickly finds life in New York City circa 1972 sure ain't like being in Kansas anymore. And how! Across a series of loopy, cartoonish, gag-filled episodes and madcap musical numbers — *that's* how.

Woodlawn's ferocious fellow Warhol Superstar Tally Brown chews no small amount of scenery as Mary Poppins, and the mayhem is only enhanced by voice cameos from none other than Bette Midler and Lily Tomlin!

"A COMEDIC TOUR-DE-FORCE FOR WOODLAWN."

ELIZABETH PURCELL, *SCREEN SLATE*

SESSION TIMES

ACMI THURS 21 NOV, 8.30PM

COMEDY 😄

MUSICAL 🎵

GIVE UP FOR GOOD



Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

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IN THE ROOM WHERE HE WAITS

(2024)
DIR. TIMOTHY
DESPINA MARSHALL
84 MIN | AUS | MA15+

Star of stage and screen Daniel Monks (*Pulse*, MQFF 2017) embraced the horror genre with maniacal glee thanks to a memorably mean supporting role in queer Instagram-influenced slasher *Sissy*. But the spotlight's squarely on his towering talent in Timothy Despina Marshall's goosebump-inducingly spooky debut feature. Set during lockdowns, this psychological chiller casts Monks as Tobi, an Aussie actor cast in a US production of Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie*. But when the death of his estranged father summons him home for the funeral, he's plagued by a disturbing presence while languishing in hotel quarantine.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI.....MON 18 NOV, 6.00PM

HORROR



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THROUPLE

(2024)
DIR. GREYSON HORST
89 MIN | USA | U18+

Throuple follows Michael (Michael Doshier), a lonely gay singer-songwriter who's lost his voice and his way. Stuck in a cycle of avoiding relationships, Michael hasn't marched to the beat of his own drum for years, but everything changes when he meets Georgie and Connor, a gay married couple looking for something new. A casual hook-up turns into an unexpectedly intimate connection, pushing Michael to confront his fears around love and intimacy. Set against the backdrop of Brooklyn's DIY music scene, *Throuple* is an exploration of modern love, queer relationships, and the pursuit of artistic expression. Greyson Horst's debut showcases how queer artists navigate the triple threat of life, love and music in this full-of-fun film.

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO.....FRI 15 NOV, 8.45PM
CINEMA NOVA.....SUN 17 NOV, 3.15PM

COMEDY



WORLD PREMIERE

SINGLE, OUT: SEASON 3 (EPISODES 1-4)

(2024)
DIR. LEE GALEA
72 MIN | AUS | U15+

In the highly anticipated penultimate season of *Single, Out*, Adam (Will Hutchins) returns, navigating the complexities of life, art and relationships. Season 3 follows Adam as he continues his journey of self-discovery set in motion by a life-changing sexual experience. With humour and heart, Adam and his friends stumble through the highs and lows of life, capturing the challenges of staying true to oneself.

Originally written by Lee Galea during Melbourne's first lockdown, *Single, Out: Season 3* dives deeper into character development, blossoming friendships and romances, with new faces and unexpected twists, making this season a heartfelt exploration of queer life.

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA.....SUN 24 NOV, 3.30PM

COMEDY

DRAMA



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

EAT THE NIGHT

(2024)
DIR. CAROLINE POGGI,
JONATHAN VINEL
106 MIN | FRA | U18+

Dynamic French duo Caroline Poggi and Jonathan Vinel return to the dystopian themes of 2018's *Jessica Forever* as drug dealer Pablo (Théo Cholbi) and his younger sister Apolline (Lila Gueneau) throw themselves into a fantastical online game, "Darknoon". Thrown back into the real, Pablo's saved from a scary situation by the handsome Night (Erwan Kepoa Falé). Igniting incendiary passions, the lads can't keep their hands off one another, while Apolline's left alone in the game. All awhile, war rumbles with rival dealers, in this blistering Cannes Queer Palm-nominated thriller.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI.....SUN 17 NOV, 8.45PM
THE CAPITOL.....THUR 21 NOV, 6.00PM

THRILLER

DRAMA



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

BABY

(2024)
DIR. MARCELO CAETANO
106 MIN | BRA, FRA, NLD | R18+

When Wellington (João Pedro Mariano) gets out of two years' juvenile detention to discover his no-good parents have skipped town, the São Paulo teenager refuses to collapse. Falling in with old mates, a chance encounter with forty-something Ronaldo (Ricardo Teodoro) outside a porn cinema leads to a surreal relationship somewhere between lover, father and sex work business partner. Reborn as Baby, a reclaimed insult, he soon thrives in the role in this deeply humanistic new movie from *Body Electric* director Marcelo Caetano in which a found family, including Ronaldo's ex Priscilla (Ana Flavia Cavalcanti) and her girlfriend (Bruna Linzmeyer), recalibrates what it means to belong. Nominated for the Queer Palm at the Cannes Film Festival, far from Ken Loach-like miserabilism, it radiates optimism set to a sparkling pop score.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

"VIEWERS GET A GLIMPSE INTO QUEER
JOY IN MANY FORMS"

OLINIA POPP, CINEUROPA

SESSION TIMES

ACMI.....SUN 17 NOV, 6.15PM
THE CAPITOL.....WED 20 NOV, 8.45PM

DRAMA

COMING OF AGE



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

CLOSE TO YOU

(2023)
DIR. DOMINIC SAVAGE
100 MIN | CAN | U15+

Close to You is a heartfelt exploration of identity and belonging, following Sam, a trans man who returns to his hometown for his father's birthday after years of distance. Confronting family dynamics, lost love and the emotional impact of his transition, the film goes beyond personal transformation, redefining the meaning of love and acceptance. Written and directed by Dominic Savage and starring Elliot Page in his first leading role as a trans man, *Close to You* draws from Page's lived experience. As Sam reconnects with his family and an old flame, the film tenderly examines the complexities of coming home and embracing one's true self. With themes of resilience, hope and understanding, *Close to You* courageously captures the unending journey of self-acceptance and love.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

"ANYBODY WHO IS THE "ODD PERSON OUT" IN A FAMILY FOR REASONS OF GENDER IDENTITY, RACE, NATIONALITY, OR DISABILITY IS GOING TO FEEL VERY MUCH SEEN DURING THE FAMILY SCENES..."

MATT ZOLLER SEITZ, ROGEREBERT.COM

SESSION TIMES

ACMI (SENSORY-FRIENDLY SCREENING).....SUN 17 NOV, 3.45PM
CINEMA NOVA.....THUR 21 NOV, 8.30PM

DRAMA ROMANCE



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

THE QUEEN OF MY DREAMS

(2023)
DIR. FAWZIA MIRZA
97 MIN | CAN | U15+

The Queen of My Dreams is a vibrant exploration of identity, love and cultural connection infused with the lively spirit of a Bollywood musical. This semi-autobiographical film from debut writer-director Fawzia Mirza follows Azra, a queer Muslim graduate student living in Canada in 1999 with her non-Muslim girlfriend, Miriam. When family tragedy hits, Azra must return to her motherland of Pakistan where she's confronted with childhood memories and the friction of growing up with a conservative mother — but perhaps they're not so different, after all. Through the dual performances of Amrit Kaur, the narrative weaves between 1969 Karachi and 1999 Toronto, revealing the intricate bonds between mothers and daughters desperately seeking to define their own identity and decide their own path.

SESSION TIMES

ACMISUN 17 NOV, 9.00PM
CINEMA NOVA.....SAT 23 NOV, 3.30PM

COMEDY DRAMA



MARCELLO MIO

(2024)
DIR. CHRISTOPHE HONORÉ
121 MIN | FRA, ITA | U15+

Prepare to enter the multiverse of French and Italian cinema as some of these nations' brightest stars play alter-images in this metatextual musing from *Sorry Angel* director Christophe Honoré. Led by mother and daughter duo Chiara Mastroianni and the legendary Catherine Deneuve, the latter gives some dubious advice to the former on auditioning for actor-turned-director Nicole Garcia (*From the Land of the Moon*). When the try-out goes awry, Chiara's wiggled out by a note to play it more like her late, great father, *La Dolce Vita* lead Marcello Mastroianni. Taking it to heart, Chiara borrows a suit from her ex-husband Benjamin Biolay, losing herself in the role of a lifetime. Uncannily adopting Marcello's mannerisms, an encounter with a soldier (*Fleabag's* Hugh Skinner, one of the few performers not playing a version of themselves) goes to fascinating places in this genderqueer musing on what it takes to step out of the shadows of those who made us.

SESSION TIMES

ACMITUE 19 NOV, 6.00PM
PALACE CINEMA COMO.....FRI 22 NOV, 9.00PM

COMEDY



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

HIGH TIDE

(2024)
DIR. MARCO CALVANI
101 MIN | USA | U15+

Dashingly handsome and multi-talented Italian playwright, director and actor Marco Calvani casts his real-life lover, Brazilian star Marco Pigossi (Gen V), as the lead in his debut directorial feature. Lourenço is running out of time on his visa but doesn't want to go home, having fallen in love with the sea-spray-misted charms of Provincetown, the fishing enclave and artists' haven that has long harboured gay men seeking the quieter life. With his recent ex not returning his calls, he's a lost soul who finds solace in the melancholy poetry of Oswald de Andrade and begins to fall for visiting New Yorker Maurice (James Bland). Deep waters run through this luminous SXSW-debuting movie that also features Mya Taylor, the breakout star from Sean Baker's *Tangerine*, Todd Flaherty of *Chrissy*, Judy fame and none other than *Love is Strange* and *Spider-Man* star Marisa Tomei.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI SAT 16 NOV, 3.45PM



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

BACKSPOT

(2023)
DIR. D. W. WATERSON
93 MIN | CAN | U15+

After hearing that esteemed high school cheer squad Thunder Hawks have spots opening, mid-level ranked Riley (Devery Jacobs) and her girlfriend Amanda (Kudakwashe Rutendo) apply, making the elite team. The perfectionism dictated by coach Eileen (Evan Rachel Wood) impact the newcomers and Riley's interior world begins to crumble like a cheer squad pyramid gone wrong. The days of blanket forts and queer bliss for Riley and Amanda are tested by the rigours of gruelling practice and dopamine highs. With a high energy soundtrack by Casey MQ along with amusing singalongs from *Legally Blonde: The Musical*, *Backspot* backflips the formulaic cheerful cheerleader tropes of *Bring It On*, landing a blistering, compulsive narrative by non-binary, first time feature helmer and electronic music producer, D. W. Waterson. Jacobs (Waterson's partner in life) also acts as one of the producers, alongside

Elliot Page. Anchored, literally, by Jacobs' driven performance as the squad's titular character, *Backspot* will cartwheel into your heart with a physicality and rawness rare in queer sport cinema.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI TUE 19 NOV, 6.15PM
CINEMA NOVA SUN 24 NOV, 1.15PM

SCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **AND A LITTLE FOR ME**
(DIR: KATHRYN ROAKE, USA, 6 MINS)



FESTIVAL LOUNGE



The MQFF Festival Lounge returns! Catch up with friends and fellow cinephiles, have a cute little date night (wink) and enjoy fabulous hospitality between screenings along with a range of fascinating free public programs in our mirror ball-lit lounge.

In line with the "Formative Sound and Vision" theme of this year's festival, we're treating MQFF's audience to 10 days of music video jukebox and queer karaoke shenanigans. Get your vocal cords in order, people, because we want to hear you sing!

MQFF's Festival Lounge is located at ACMI in the bar behind the kiosk and is open during screening times throughout the festival.

LOCATION

ACMI BAR + CAFE

OPENING HOURS

NOV 14 – 24
DAILY DURING FESTIVAL SCREENINGS AT ACMI

*REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS.

SYMPOSIUM: MY FORMATIVE QUEERS

PERSONALITIES, PUNDITS, PROFESSORS AND POLYMATHS SHARE STORIES OF THE FILMS, MUSIC VIDEOS AND OTHER SCREEN WORKS THAT MADE THEM THE QUEERS THEY ARE TODAY.



In keeping with the Festival's "Formative Sound and Vision" theme, *My Formative Queers* turns its gaze — and gays — to music videos, those short films that captured the soundtracks of our youths. In particular, those queerly beloved music videos that reflected our emerging queer selves back at us for what might have been the first time.

Featuring a keynote by international guest of the fest, Darryl W. Bullock, author of *David Bowie Made Me Gay: 100 Years of LGBT Music*, this free event brings together speakers from university professors to national treasures, presenting short, moving and hilarious tales of the music videos whose queer representations, overt or otherwise, ignited, informed or, indeed, confirmed the glorious queer they were to become.

Be the first to hear the stories that will be published in a collected dossier in 2025 for esteemed online journal *Senses of Cinema*.

Supported by RMIT's Design and Creative Practice Enabling Impact Platform, and conceived by festival director Cerise Howard in cahoots with queer screen academics Patrick Kelly and Stacy Taylor, the storytellers include festival filmmakers and alumni, screen producers, writers, actors, designers and professors including Sandy O'Sullivan, Jacob Tolo, Lucy Schmidt, Angie Black, Timothy Despina Marshall and Rohan Spong.

REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL.

LOCATION

GANDEL LAB, ACMI

DATE & TIME

SAT 16 NOV, 2.00PM – 5.30PM

*TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST, VISIT: [MQFF.COM.AU/SYMPIOSIUM](https://mqff.com.au/symposium)

INDUSTRY DAY



This year MQFF, in collaboration with queer filmmakers Timothy Despina Marshall, Steph Parsons and Vee Shi, is thrilled to present a revamped and extended Industry Day open to the public again for a second year!

This year we'll have three industry panels and masterclasses where experts will offer invaluable insight to LGBTQIA+ creatives on everything from starting your career as a writer and making a low-budget queer film to the ins and outs of copyright and contracts.

The day will conclude with networking drinks open to all LGBTQIA+ screen creatives and professionals and their allies. We're excited to yet again provide a space for queer creatives to mix, mingle and maybe even form collaborations for the future!

REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL.

LOCATION

GANDEL LAB, ACMI

DATE & TIME

SUN 17 NOV, 10.30AM – 5.30PM

*TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST,
VISIT: MQFF.COM.AU/INDUSTRYDAY

PUBLIC PROGRAMS



100+ YEARS OF LGBTQIA+ MUSIC

Prolific author Darryl W. Bullock is a font of knowledge when it comes to queers in music and inspired this year's theme of "Formative Sound and Vision" with his book, *David Bowie Made Me Gay: 100 Years of LGBT Music*. Join MQFF Program Director Cerise Howard in conversation with Darryl and treasured, queer-run label Chapter Music's Guy Blackman as they excavate hidden queer histories and look to glorious queer musical futures!

GANDEL LAB, ACMI..... FRI 15 NOV, 7.00PM–8.00PM

MQFF SPEED DATING

Seeking a little... romance? Or just want to make some new buddies to experience MQFF with? We got you, boo – this Saturday social hosted by Tina Del Twist will set you up – perhaps in more ways than one. Read into that what you will.

Limited capacity – registration required.

FESTIVAL LOUNGE, ACMI..... SAT 16 NOV, 4.30PM–5.45PM

CAMP-AS KARAOKE

On Saturday nights, we sing! Come to the MQFF Festival Lounge to indulge in a prime selection of festival-favourite tunes from our jukebox karaoke. Don't be shy – grab the microphone and let your voice shine.

No booking is required – show up and rock the house.

FESTIVAL LOUNGE, ACMI..... SAT 16 NOV, 7.30PM–10.30PM

FESTIVAL LOUNGE, ACMI..... SAT 23 NOV, 7.30PM–10.30PM

QUEER FILM TRIVIA

Are you a cinephile overflowing with queer film and TV knowledge? Gather a group of your favourite mates for a fabulously campy evening of queer film trivia hosted by Melbourne drag icon Frock Hudson (aka Dean Arcuri). Group booking essential, visit the website for details.

Limited capacity – registration required.

FESTIVAL LOUNGE, ACMI..... SUN 17 NOV, 7.00PM–8.15PM

MEET THE COMMISSIONER FOR LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITIES

Recently appointed to the role, Joe Ball works to support the rights, safety, and wellbeing of Victoria's LGBTQIA+ communities and plays a leading role in implementing the Victorian Government's Pride in our future strategy. Join MQFF CEO, David Martin Harris, in conversation with our new Commissioner to discuss the issues affecting us today and what the future holds for LGBTQIA+ social justice.

GANDEL LAB, ACMI..... FRI 22 NOV, 7.00PM–8.00PM

QUEERS IN SPORT – RIGHTS AND RULES

Jacqueline Shields, host of JOY 94.9's sports program *Game On!*, will moderate a panel including Proud2Play Community Development Officer, Kade Mathews and Vice President of Melbourne Frontrunners LGBTQIA+ running and walking club, Nicole Norris. Speaking to themes in *Power Alley* and *Life Is Not a Competition, But I'm Winning*, they'll discuss body autonomy and how LGBTQIA+ athletes' participation in sports can be on their own queer terms.

GANDEL LAB, ACMI..... SAT 23 NOV, 4.00PM–5.00PM

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE LIFE OF SEAN DELEAR

Formerly fronting LA. post-punk band Glue, multidisciplinary queer Black artist Sean Delear (sounds like “chandelier”) packed a helluva lot into a mere 52 years of life. Upon their passing from cancer in 2017, who better to pay tribute to their life’s sprawling, polymath, gender-fluid magnificence than Viennese filmmaker Markus Zizenbacher, whom “Seandy” entrusted with their archive?

A companion piece to Delear’s posthumously published, unfiltered, highly explicit teenage diaries, *I Could Not Believe It*, Zizenbacher’s film has a frantic punk energy, collaging materials galore from Delear’s handheld video diaries and featuring interviews with fashion designer Rick Owens, actor and Bongwater founding member, Ann Magnuson, and Seandy’s former housemate, cult actor Susan Tyrrell (an Oscar

nominee for 1972’s *Fat City*). While Delear is sadly no longer with us, we can still learn from their example — this film delivers an object lesson in living life large, with multi-intersectional, punk rock aplomb!

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA.....SAT 23 NOV, 11:55PM

SCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **MAURICE’S BAR**
(DIR: TZOR EDERY, TOM PREZMAN, FRANCE, 15 MINS)



DESIRE LINES

(2024)
DIR. JULES ROSSKAM
81 MIN | USA | U18+

The cinematic form is no more bound by a binary than gender, as autoethnographic artist, academic and filmmaker Jules Rosskam (*Transparent*) adeptly underlines with his exhilaratingly sexy and smart hybrid docufiction film *Desire Lines*. The fictional component centres on Iranian-American transman Ahmad (Aden Hakimi) and follows his tentative exploration of transmasculine history via a meet-cute with younger trans man Kieran (Theo Germaine) in Chicago’s LGBTQI+ archive. But when the pandemic crashes the party, closing the city’s bathhouses with echoes of the HIV/AIDS crisis, a time slip of sorts opens a documentary door to real-life heroes, in new interviews and archival footage including author and activist Lou Sullivan, the pioneering transmasc hero.

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA.....SAT 16 NOV, 11:55PM (OC)

SCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **DREAMS OF SUNLIGHT THROUGH TREES** (DIR: THEO JEAN CUTHAND, CANADA, 16 MINS)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE
DOPPELGÄNGERS³

(2024)
DIR. NELLY BEN HAYOUN-STÉPANIAN
73 MIN | USA, UK | U15+

Powerhouse polymath Dr Nelly Ben Hayoun-Stépanian is the SETI Institute’s Designer of Experiences. In her latest film, her goal is to “imagine diasporic and queer ecofeminist futures”... in space! She embarks with two lookalikes, representing divergent aspects of her heritage, upon an expedition to the Astroland Interplanetary Agency’s Mars simulation in Spain, to explore whether the colonisation of space can be... decolonised, while a dizzying array of experts help us imagine an outer space future free from traumas encountered on Earth. With music from Pussy Riot and Colin Self!

CONTENT ADVICE:

This film contains flashing images.

SESSION TIMES

THE CAPITOL.....SUN 24 NOV, 4.00PM



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

LIFE IS NOT A
COMPETITION, BUT I'M WINNING

(2023)
DIR. JULIA FUHR MANN
79 MIN | GER | U15+

Julia Fuhr Mann’s experimental essay on the “marginalised bodies” of sport, in this case track, compels the viewer to pay attention to these bodies in motion and to look back with them on the fraught history of gender in athletics. As Mann’s queer athletes move from stadiums like the ‘original’ at Athens to the controversial 1936 Berlin Olympic Stadium, the hidden histories of “divergent and ambiguous bodies” are revealed. The time travelling queer athletes are inserted into archival footage, reclaiming sporting heroes who’d as good as been erased — a timely message after the incidents of gender-diverse phobia at this year’s Summer Olympics. Gender-positive and affirming, Mann’s cinematic discourse looks to an inclusive future for competitive athletics.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI.....SAT 23 NOV, 9.00PM



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

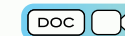
LESVIA

(2024)
DIR. TZELI HADJIDIMITRIOU
77 MIN | GRC | U15+

The Greek island of Lesbos gifted its name to the international term for women who love women, going all the way back to its famous daughter, Sappho, who penned countless poems to them. Flash forward a few thousand years, and it remains a cultural outpost for the free of spirit, as this beautifully drawn, lyrical documentary by local filmmaker and photographer Tzeli Hadjidimitriou outlines. Featuring a wealth of talking heads, it details how lesbians from every corner of the globe have flocked to Lesbos since the '70s, transforming it in their wake, even if some of the locals were less than impressed.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI.....SAT 16 NOV, 6:15PM
CINEMA NOVA.....SAT 23 NOV, 1.00PM



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THIS IS BALLROOM

(2024)
DIR. JURU. VITÄ
92 MIN | BRA | U15+

The performance art of Ballroom is alive and kicking in this sonically and visually stunning treat from queer Brazilian filmmaker duo Juru and Vitä. This is an insiders’ gaze into unique blends of voguing culture, integrating indigenous styles of dance into the local Ballroom spaces to give it a trans-American flavour.

Identity is everything in this intimate and glorious record of the Houses of Alafia, Bushidô, Blyndex and more. It’s an immersive vision of the Kiki houses of Rio de Janeiro, as members challenge each other on the floor, blended with discussions on race and gender in a celebration of Black and Brown queer community.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO.....FRI 15 NOV, 6.30PM
ACMI.....SUN 24 NOV, 3.45PM



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AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

LADY LIKE

(2024)
DIR. LUKE WILLIS
88 MIN | UK, USA | U15+

The many-headed behemoth that is *RuPaul's Drag Race* has launched a thousand careers (slight exaggeration) but thrown just as many folks overboard. British-born, US-based Lady Camden – AKA Rex Wheeler – a veteran of season 14, is one of the survivors. This intimate debut documentary by director Luke Willis follows his journey from the Royal Ballet in London to embracing drag, getting drafted, then dealing with the hullabaloo that followed his time on the show, and a profoundly personal tragedy. But above all it's a curtain-pull back on what it truly takes to become an indomitable performer.

CONTENT ADVICE:
This film contains flashing images.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI SAT 17 NOV, 4.00PM
CINEMA NOVA SUN 24 NOV, 1.00PM



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

A HOUSE IS NOT A DISCO

(2024)
DIR. BRIAN J. SMITH
90 MIN | USA | U15+

Sense8 actor Brian J. Smith's documentary is a celebration of the Fire Island Pines community. Set within the iconic queer beach town 50 miles from NYC, *A House Is Not a Disco* presents a kaleidoscope of intimate stories shared by locals and newcomers who reflect on the island's rich history and its role as a "homo-normative" haven for self-expression and liberation. From epic party highs through to the height of the AIDS crisis, Fire Island is a community bonded by joy, sadness, freedom, experience and connection.

SESSION TIMES
THE CAPITOL SAT 16 NOV, 6.15PM
PALACE CINEMA COMO FRI 22 NOV, 6.30PM



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

FRAGMENTS OF A LIFE LOVED

(2023)
DIR. CHLOÉ BARREAU
95 MIN | ITA | U15+

Three decades of videos, photographs and letters are patchworked to piece together French filmmaker Chloé Barreau's love life in one of the most achingly honest of 'tell-alls' imaginable. Her ex-lovers – and there are many – speak openly on camera about their falling for, being in love and falling out of love with Barreau. As one old flame says, "It's like landing in a new country and saying, 'Wow, it's beautiful. Has this been here all the time?'" Love her or not, Barreau's story will reel you in hook, line and sinker.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI MON 18 NOV, 6.00PM
PALACE CINEMA COMO FRI 22 NOV, 9.00PM





TEACHES OF PEACHES

(2024)
DIR. PHILIPP FUSSENEGGER, JUDY LANDKAMMER
102 MIN | GER | U15+

This Teddy Award-winning documentary portrait follows genderqueer Canadian electro-punk performance artist and producer Peaches on her barnstorming "Teaches of Peaches Anniversary Tour" in 2022. Expertly splicing together exhilarating footage from that tour with rawer footage taken from Peaches' breakthrough years two decades prior, it'll come as no surprise to learn that co-director Judy Landkammer was not only this hyperkinetic film's editor, but Bruce LaBruce's on *The Visitor* as well.

Garbage's Shirley Manson and Peaches' partner Black Cracker all attest. And lucky us – we're treated to plenty of eye-popping, behind-the-scenes backstage action too. You came to see a rock show? You'll get it – and much more besides!

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
THE CAPITOL.....FRI 22 NOV, 6:15PM



Now well into middle-age, Peaches' career has long been abundant in joyously queer, sex-positive musical provocation and in the cultivation of chosen family. This massively entertaining, insightful film demonstrates that the patriarchy-demolishing Merrill Nisker still has plenty to teach us all, as interviews with friends and collaborators Leslie Feist, Chilly Gonzales,

GAY CHORUS DEEP SOUTH

(2019)
DIR. DAVID CHARLES RODRIGUES
92 MIN | USA | U15+

In *S/He Is Still Her/E* director David Charles Rodrigues' gorgeous documentary, we follow the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus – many of whom banded together during the HIV/AIDS crisis – as they go on tour through the southern states least likely to support LGBTQIA+ rights. Tim Seelig, a former Texan who felt driven out of town by his sexuality, tenderly guides the group through rocky times in the aftermath of Trump's 2016 election win, revealing the film to be as much about journeys of personal healing as about changing hearts and minds.

CONTENT ADVICE:
Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES
THE CAPITOL.....SAT 23 NOV, 3:45PM



A PORTRAIT OF LOVE

(2024)
DIR. MOLLY REYNOLDS
90 MIN | AUS | M

When Archibald Prize-winning artist Craig Ruddy was cruelly taken too soon due to complications from COVID-19, his long-term partner, actor Roberto Meza Mont (*Candy*), was devastated. Surrounded by Ruddy's viscerally tactile portraits – including Cathy Freeman, Warwick Thornton, Bruce Pascoe and David Gulpilil – in their Byron Bay hinterlands home, he was a lost soul looking for some way to commemorate their love. Filmmaker friend Molly Reynolds (*My Name is Gulpilil*) hit upon crafting this moving tribute using only Mont's smartphone footage and his poetic elegy as narratorial connective tissue.

SESSION TIMES
ACMI.....SUN 17 NOV, 6:15PM



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MELBOURNE QUEER FILM FESTIVAL
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AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

LINDA PERRY: LET IT DIE HERE

Even had Linda Perry only given us *What's Up?* — the anthemic megahit she wrote and belted out when fronting one album-wonder 4 Non Blondes — her dykon status would still have been assured. But add to that her work as writer and producer of Pink's *Get the Party Started* and Christina Aguilera's *Beautiful*, and her work with Dolly Parton on the *Dumplin'* soundtrack, and... well, now we're only just getting started. Don Hardy's gripping documentary grants us unprecedentedly candid access to its perpetually frazzled subject during a particularly taxing time for her, illuminating the many challenges she has faced in her life and career, notwithstanding all of the triumphs. Brandi Carlile joins Christina and Dolly, and Perry's ex-wife, actor Sara Gilbert (*Darlene* in *Roseanne* and *The Conners*) among the talking

heads in this superb, animation-enhanced tribute to a legendary singer-songwriter-producer who keeps on producing hits for select others, the more she explores what she should be creating for herself.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

THE CAPITOL.....SUN 17 NOV, 6.15PM



(2024)

DIR. DON HARDY
93 MIN | USA | U15+



LITTLE RICHARD: I AM EVERYTHING

From The Beatles to Bowie to Billy Porter, a grand cavalcade of stars credits the indelible starlight shimmer of Little Richard for helping pave the way for them to shine. A galaxy-brained talent with a startling voice and the smooth moves to match his pizzazz-filled piano playing, the musician born in Macon, Georgia, did not doubt his innate talents. "Y'all ain't never gave me no Grammy ... I am the architect of rock 'n' roll", he archly declared while presenting at the 1988 ceremony. Everyone from the Pope of Trash, John Waters, to Rolling Stones frontman Mick Jagger bows down in Lisa Cortés' illuminating, toe-tapping documentary. Acknowledging just how far ahead of his time the mercurial, often contradictory Richard Wayne Penniman was,

it shows how he twinkled far too bright for a music industry unsure what to make of his magnificent queerness, in every sense of the word, though that too was in flux. This fabulous filmic tribute is long overdue.

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA.....SUN 17 NOV, 3.30PM



(2023)

DIR. LISA CORTÉS
102 MIN | USA | M



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AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

NANEKAWÂSIS

(2024)
DIR. CONOR MCNALLY
80 MIN | CAN | U15+

Enduring the Sixties Scoop and intergenerational trauma suffered by their mother from the residential school system, First Nations and Two-Spirit Canadian artist George Littlechild shares their story as a survivor. George's art is a way they "try to bring joy to the planet" despite the challenges and struggles of the Indigenous experience under colonial systems. Documenting through photograph and video archives of their experiences in a world that was often dismissive of Two-Spirit identity, George perseveres for recognition that queers have always existed. This debut documentary is an insight into the artist's process, whose quiet defiance expresses the need for a queer Indigenous futurity.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA SAT 16 NOV, 3:15PM
CINEMA NOVA SAT 23 NOV, 3:15PMSCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **ÁHKUIN** (DIR: RADIO-JUSSUNNÁ / SUNNÁ NOUSUNIEMI, GUHTTUR NIILLAS RITA DUOMIS / TUOMAS KUMPULAINEN, FINLAND, 20 MINS)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

BALDIGA – UNLOCKED HEART

(2024)
DIR. MARKUS STEIN
92 MIN | GER | U18+

Coming to West Berlin in 1979, Jürgen Baldiga (1959 – 1993) eked out a living as a cook and rent boy while cultivating an arts practice that, come an HIV-positive diagnosis in 1984, exploded into a frenzied, Dionysian documentation of the Berlin(s) of the '80s and early '90s. In this scintillating documentary, diary readings are accompanied by interviews with friends and intimates, archival footage, re-enactments and hundreds of Baldiga's indelible photographs, making for a wholly transportive trip to the Berlins of yesteryear and a celebration of an abbreviated life lived with gusto.

CONTENT ADVICE:

This film contains flashing images. See page 5 or the Accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

THE CAPITOL FRI 15 NOV, 6:15PM



MELBOURNE PREMIERE

DALTON'S DREAM

(2023)
DIR. KIM LONGINOTTO,
FRANKY MURRAY BROWN
91 MIN | UK | U18+

"Fame puts you there where things are hollow ... it's just the flame that burns your change to keep you insane", Bowie sang on *Young Americans'* second single. Countless stars have relayed their love/hate relationship with the music industry and celebrity game. Pansexual Jamaican-born Dalton Harris had a front-row seat, winning the UK *X Factor* in 2018, and struggling to come to terms with childhood abuse and the homophobic pushback his triumph unleashed. Remaining hopeful despite his trials, *Dalton's Dream* is the gift of a passionate, tenacious young man.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI SAT 16 NOV, 6:30PM



QUEERAMA

(2017)
DIR. DAISY ASQUITH
70 MIN | UK | U15+

Created from a deep dive into the British Film Institute Archive, this engrossing, moving essay film charts a century of incredible change in British queer life. Film, TV, documentary and newsreel footage is mined to illuminate the relationships, desires, fears and activism of queer folk from 1919 onwards. *Queerama* features landmark moments from films such as *Victim*, *The Killing of Sister George*, *Caravaggio* and *Young Soul Rebels* (also screening this year), yoked to a dynamic soundtrack including Hercules & Love Affair, Goldfrapp and John Grant (with a Sinéad O'Connor cameo).

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA SUN 17 NOV, 1:15PM

SCREENS WITH SHORT FILM **QUEEROVISION**
(DIR: LYNNE HARWOOD, JAY FARLEY, UK, 30 MINS)JOY DRIVE
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 3. Select the film that you've purchased tickets for to start watching.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT MQFF.COM.AU/MQFF+



SOUND OF MUSIC SHORTS

94 MIN | U18+

Can you feel the beat deep down in your bones? Then get up and boogie to this swinging collection of shorts that have music and dance thrumming in their soul.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI FRI 15 NOV, 6.15PM



FEATURING

Bolero (DIR: Nans Laborde-Jourdaa, France)
 Dance with Pride — A Journey of Identity Through Movement (DIR: Javier Cataño-Gonzalez, Australia)
 Hands Tied — Ukulele Death Squad (DIR: Sam Osborn-Rassaby, Australia)
 Harbor (DIR: T Lavois Thiebaud, United States)
 Sorcerous Love (DIR: Orlando Mora Cabrera, Cuba)
 Symptom (DIR: Kamee Abrahamian, Armenia)
 Vollúpya (DIR: Éri Sarmet, Jocimar Dias Jr., Brazil)



FREAK OUT! SHORTS

94 MIN | U18+

Booooo! This frightfully queer dungeon's worth of spooky stories unleashes the scariest stuff, from sentient lampposts attacking possessed spirits and the end of the world.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI WED 20 NOV, 8.45PM



FEATURING

Adrenaline (DIR: Veddd Vijay Rawtaani, India)
 Bath Bomb (DIR: Colin G Cooper, Canada)
 Burrow (DIR: Leaf Lieber, United States)
 Consume (DIR: Aliyah Knight, Australia)
 Jinx (DIR: Harry Brakha, Australia)
 Last Night (DIR: Ryan Mack, United States)
 Streetlight People (DIR: Emily Pink Dwyer, Australia)
 Tapped (DIR: Benjamin Brewer, Australia)



WE ARE FAMILY SHORTS

91 MIN | U18+

Whether navigating sperm donorship, parental responses to transitioning or caring for elderly parents, the beauty of rainbow families lies at the heart of all these shorts.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO SAT 16 NOV, 9.00PM



FEATURING

- Chavo (DIR: Alecio Araci, Sweden)
- Dive Into the Blue (DIR: Ge Gao, United States)
- I Don't Know If I'll Have to Say Everything Again (DIR: Vitória Fallavena, Thassilo Weber, Brazil)
- Kezét Csókolom (I Kiss Your Hand, Madame) (DIR: Jeremy Luke Bolatag, Hungary)
- Son (DIR: Saman Hosseinpuor, Iran)
- What We Do for Family (DIR: Jennifer JP Piper, Australia)



BLACK PRIDE SHORTS

85 MIN | U18+

From a dance work told entirely in Aboriginal language – Yankunytjatjara – to a thriller set in Lagos or a jazz bar in the US, these staunch stories shine a light on Black voices.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI FRI 22 NOV, 6.30PM



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ONE WORLD SHORTS

94 MIN | U18+

Skipping gaily from a rural Japanese village to a baking hot Athens and following a Hong Kong activist resettled in the US, this collection highlights connection.

FEATURING

A Bird Called Memory (DIR: Leonardo Martinelli, Brazil)
 Anywhere the Wind Blows (DIR: Jay Liu, United States)
 Blood Like Water (DIR: Dima Hamdan, Palestine)
 Farewell, Saranghae, Farewell (DIR: Sunhye Hong, South Korea)
 Pigeons Are Dying, When the City Is on Fire (DIR: Stavros Markoulakis, Greece)

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO WED 20 NOV, 8.45PM

SHORTS 



WIDE HORIZONS SHORTS

95 MIN | U18+

From a Turkish tailor's shop to graffitied streets in Argentina via Berlin apartment hunting and a poetically sexy Croatian animation, this window on the world is wondrous.

FEATURING

A Wayfarer (DIR: Roselye Zhao, United States)
 Buffer Zone (DIR: Savvas Stavrou, UK/Cyprus)
 Circle (DIR: Ferhat Ertan, Turkey)
 Du Bist So Wunderbar (Paradise Europe) (DIR: Leandro Goddinho, Paulo Menezes, Germany)
 Stay Still or I'll Love You (DIR: Federico Luis, Argentina)
 Uli (DIR: Mariana Gil Rios, Colombia)
 Y (DIR: Matea Kovač, Croatia)

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA SUN 17 NOV, 1.00PM

SHORTS 



OUT(LOOK) SHORTS

80 MIN | U18+

From Myanmar to Germany, Brazil to Iran and on, this fascinating round-the-world ticket offers spectacular viewing for hungry minds set on exploring.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

PALACE CINEMA COMO SAT 16 NOV, 6.15PM

SHORTS 



OUT THERE SHORTS

90 MIN | U18+

Are you impossible to shock? Challenge accepted! This weird and wonderful collection of the surreal, silly and sexy is designed to push your buttons.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI TUE 19 NOV, 8.30PM

ACMI SAT 23 NOV, 3.30PM

SHORTS 



LOVE IS LOVE SHORTS

97 MIN | U18+

Prepare to swoon as these heart-full stories of queer joy explore love on the apps from a neurodiverse perspective, the poetry of love and reconnecting to what was lost.

FEATURING

A Poem Called Love Jones (DIR: Linda Neveah Denson, Diana Khong, United States)
 Halfway (DIR: Kumar Chheda, India)
 Monologue (DIR: Beau Low, Australia)
 Neuromance (DIR: Brodie Pyke, Australia)
 Park Life (DIR: Marco De Luca, United Kingdom)
 Seen (DIR: Shuchi Kothari, New Zealand)
 Take Me There (DIR: Elliot Slade, United States)
 The Blurring of Trees (DIR: Fanny Perreault, Canada)
 You Can't Get What You Want but You Can Get Me (DIR: Samira Elagoz, Z Walsh, Netherlands)

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA SAT 16 NOV, 1.00PM

SHORTS 



FEATURING

Auganic (DIR: Krit Komkrichwarakool, Canada)
 Crow (DIR: Morgan Ernter, Canada)
 Joan The Kid (DIR: Kat Silverosa, Grace Hackney, Australia)
 King Ed (DIR: Nick Fascitelli, United States)
 The Exchange (DIR: Marco Berger, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Uruguay)

QUEER LINES SHORTS

98 MIN | U18+

Vogue balls, orgies and US politics, oh my! Truth can often be queerer than fiction, so settle in for these daring documentary shorts sourced from across the LGBTQIA+ spectrum.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

FEATURING

A Home Called Vogue (DIR: Yazeed Kamaldien, South Africa)
 Femme (DIR: Adele (delsi cat) Jacquilyn Moleta, Australia)
 Hello Stranger (DIR: Amélie Hardy, Canada)
 Institution (DIR: Jonathan Wysocki, United States)
 Orgy Every Other Day (DIR: Samuel Döring, United States/Germany)
 Seat 31: Zooney Zephyr (DIR: Kimberly Reed, United States)
 The History of the Carabiner (DIR: Gianna Mazzeo, Netherlands)

SESSION TIMES

CINEMA NOVA SUN 17 NOV, 5.45PM

SHORTS 





GENDER JOURNEY SHORTS

89 MIN | U18+

Gender splendour abounds in this exciting collection compiling exhilarating short stories that take great joy in celebrating resilience and upending the hoary old binary.

CONTENT ADVICE:

Please see the accessibility page on the MQFF website.

SESSION TIMES

ACMI MON 18 NOV, 8.45PM



FEATURING

Black Trans Miracle (DIR: Tinaye Nyathi, Australia)
 I Would Like to Live on the Moon (DIR: Emily Burke, UK)
 Just Jackie (DIR: Michael Richardson, United Kingdom)
 Lea and the Flamingo (DIR: Antonio De Palo, Italy)
 Shrimp (DIR: Lisle Turner, United Kingdom)
 Time Capsule (DIR: Constanze A Brodbeck, United States)
 Trans Heaven, Pennsylvania (DIR: Hansen Bursic, United States)

THANK YOU

Music is synonymous with cinema and with the queer experience. Many of us, young and old, will have clear recollections of music that has sound-tracked various stages of our journey through our wonderful LGBTQIA+ communities.

As you enjoy the films in this year's festival, we encourage you to consider the role that music plays and the particular emotions and memories that music brings. We hope that this year's Melbourne Queer Film Festival will help you discover some new music that will become part of your soundtrack.

A festival this size is not possible without a cast and crew that works tirelessly to bring you the stories of queer communities.

The people and partner organisations listed on this page are the ones who make this possible – each of you has our most sincere thanks and appreciation for supporting this important part of Victoria's queer and arts communities.

A special thank you goes out to our volunteers and the festival team, who are the face of our festival and will be working away while we enjoy this year's program. Please take the time to thank them in between screenings and at our events, and especially this year back at our Festival Lounge at ACMI.

We also want to thank you for your support of MQFF. While we can't list each ticketholder in our program, the contribution that you make by buying tickets, encouraging friends to join you and sharing our films on social media makes a tremendous contribution to our festival.

Thank you to all of you for being part of MQFF's greatest hits – we look forward to sharing films and a few songs at this year's festival.

With love and pride,
 Gail Veal & David Micallef
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FESTIVAL FRIENDS



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