
MELBOURNE
QUEER
EDITION
THIRTY-SIX
INTO THE
LIGHT
FILM
FESTIVAL
NOVEMBER
13——22


OPENING UP
TO A NEW VIEW
United Airlines is a proud partner
of the Melbourne Queer Film Festival.
UNITED
AIRLINES
MELBOURNE
QUEER
FILM
FESTIVAL
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Welcome to MQFF 36

In Melbourne, equality is non-negotiable and we proudly support our LGBTQIA+ community.

The annual Melbourne Queer Film Festival plays a crucial and vibrant role in sharing the stories of diversity across our community.

Across 10 days, audiences will be treated to a fantastic program of feature films, documentaries and short films, hosted in iconic Melbourne cinemas.

The City of Melbourne is again proud to support the Festival and to present the award for Best Australian Short Film.

I congratulate the Melbourne Queer Film Festival for its commitment to our city's screen culture - and more broadly, for the welcoming and inclusive spirit it champions.



NICHOLAS REECE
LORD MAYOR OF MELBOURNE

On behalf of the Board, it is with immense gratitude, excitement and pride that we welcome you to Edition 36! This year we look forward to celebrating the power of queer cinema amidst the incredible communities that come together to make MQFF a valued part of Naarm's queerness.

This festival would never be possible without our incredible volunteers, as well as our wonderful sponsors and our fabulous Sweethearts, who are the backbone of this festival. And to our Life Members and our valued MQFF members – your belief in our mission allows us to share stories that represent, challenge and inspire.

We extend our thanks to our staff, led this season by Festival Director, Louise Lever, who go above and beyond because they believe in the impact that LGBTIQ+ stories have on our communities.

Thank you all for being a key part of the MQFF family – we look forward to seeing you at the movies!



GAIL VEAL (SHE/HER)
CO-PRESIDENT

Where there's a will, there's a way. I think if I could sum up this year's mantra it would be that. The MQFF team has put in a herculean effort of producing a film festival, that would normally take 6-8 months of planning, in just two months.

This spirit is captured in this year's theme "into the light". It's an embodiment of filmmaking itself – painting with light – celebration, and a signal in a change of perspective. There is nothing faster than the speed of light, a scientific phenomena that has duality as it's very nature – it can be both a particle and a wave – and a ray of light contains the entirety of the rainbow spectrum.

This year's program is a celebration of this light, and the spirit that shines within the community it represents. I hope that this year's festival brings together newfound connections, new projects and ideas being discussed, and bold plans to bring local cinematic visions into actuality.



LOUISE LEVER (SHE/HER)
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Opening Night

KICK

DIR. JULIA SCHWALB
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 84 MINS

FRI 13 NOV / 6:30PM / THE CAPITOL

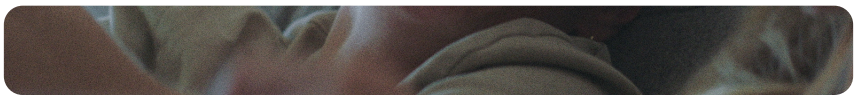
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

America's fastest 1500m runner, Nikki Hiltz, races toward an Olympic berth while confronting the pressures of public scrutiny and expectations as a trans nonbinary athlete. With unprecedented access, KICK follows Nikki and their partner Emma through a season of elite competition, as the pursuit of a lifelong dream determines not only their future but who they become to themselves and to each other.

















TIME WARP

DIR. ALLISON BERG
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 112 MINS

THU 19 NOV / 6:30PM / NOVA

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Fifty years ago, The Rocky Horror Picture Show burst onto the scene and blew everyone's minds—a glorious, campy, sexy, utterly bizarre midnight ritual that turned movie-going into something you did rather than just watched. For misfits, dreamers and the delightfully weird, Rocky Horror became their sanctuary. And for the queer community especially, it was something even more powerful: the one place you could feel completely, gloriously free.

Today, that freedom has never felt more precious—or more fragile.

Lights up on Rock Springs, Wyoming—a dusty boomtown in one of the country's most conservative states—where 25-year-old Kenny Starling has done something audacious: opened the first drag and queer theater company in town. Their debut show? A shadow cast of The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Kenny's mission: to bring queer visibility, joy, and acceptance to the high desert plains of Wyoming.

TIME WARP is a celebration of joyful self-expression, found family, and the radical, timeless act of being yourself.



BONUS SESSION

THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

DIR. JIM SHARMAN
UNITED STATES / 1975 / 100 MINS / M

The definitive cult musical, in which two innocent sweethearts stumble upon a creepy old house full of alien revellers from the planet Transylvania. A bizarre melting pot of horror, sci-fi and rock music adapted from the stage play.

THU 19 NOV / 9:00PM / NOVA

Closing Night

BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY

DIR. PALOMA SCHNEIDEMAN
NEW ZEALAND / 2026 / 100 MINS / MA15+

SUN 22 NOV / 6:30PM / THE CAPITOL

Summer 2006, rural New Zealand. 14 year-old Sid Bookman is caught between childhood and adolescence, navigating a burgeoning sexual curiosity and a desperate desire for acceptance. Her coastal town is quiet and contained, but glimpses of life beyond— flickering reality TV, American pop culture, and the occasional seedy chatroom—ignite both longing and restless possibility.

Each summer, wealthy out-of-towners arrive, carrying with them a world Sid can only imagine. Drawn to their effortless glamour and an older group of teens, she shapeshifts through versions of herself, hoping one might be enough. But the harder she tries, the more chaos she creates. Everything changes when her sister returns from university with Freya, a magnetic friend from America, whose attention awakens something Sid can't yet name. As New Year's Eve nears—her imagined gateway to adulthood—Sid must confront the painful gap between who she is and who she's pretending to be.

BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY is a tender, unflinching portrait of queer adolescence, class shame, and identity, told through the intimate, unvarnished lens of New Zealand girlhood at a moment when the wider world was beginning to seep in.

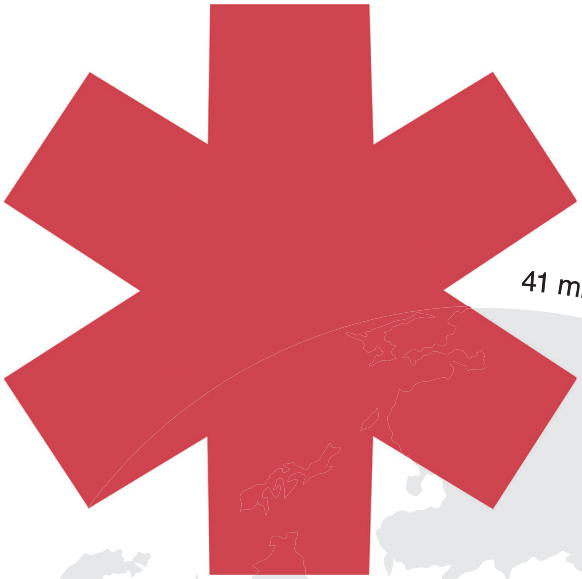








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SMALL WAYS TO MAKE A BIG IMPACT >>

Australian Shorts and Awards

SAT 21 NOV / 3:00PM / ACMI

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE AWARD INFORMATION

Shining a light on the bold, brilliant and beautifully diverse voices of Australian queer cinema, the MQFF36 Australian Short Film Package celebrates the stories that bring us together, challenge expectations and illuminate new perspectives. From intimate moments of connection to big feelings, unexpected discoveries and unapologetic queer joy, these homegrown stories capture the richness of LGBTQIA+ life across Australia. Featuring a vibrant mix of emerging and established filmmakers, this collection invites you to laugh, feel, reflect and see the world a little differently. Come celebrate the next generation of queer storytelling, right here at home.

TITLES:

- AFTER PARTY
- BABY TALK
- HOW TO TIE A TIE
- INHERITANCE
- LATE BLOOMER
- SOUVENIR
- SPIDER ON MY LASHLINE
- THE HOLDING
- YULETIDE
- AN ELEPHANT



Short Films



FIRST NATIONS PACKAGE

Centred on First Nations voices, culture and storytelling, this special collection brings together powerful films from Australia and Timor-Leste, curated by Erub and Larrakia woman Aaliyah Bradbury. Through stories of identity, community, Country, connection and self-determination, these films offer unique perspectives on the richness and diversity of First Nations experiences. Spanning generations, cultures and lived realities, this collection invites audiences to listen deeply, challenge assumptions and connect with stories that deserve to be seen and celebrated. A powerful celebration of Indigenous creativity and the enduring importance of storytelling, this package shines a light on voices, histories and futures.

SAT 21 NOV / 6:30PM / ACMI

TITLES:

- BLOODFIRE
- A STORY ABOUT VOICES
- G.O.A.T
- UNSTOPPABLE CHANGE



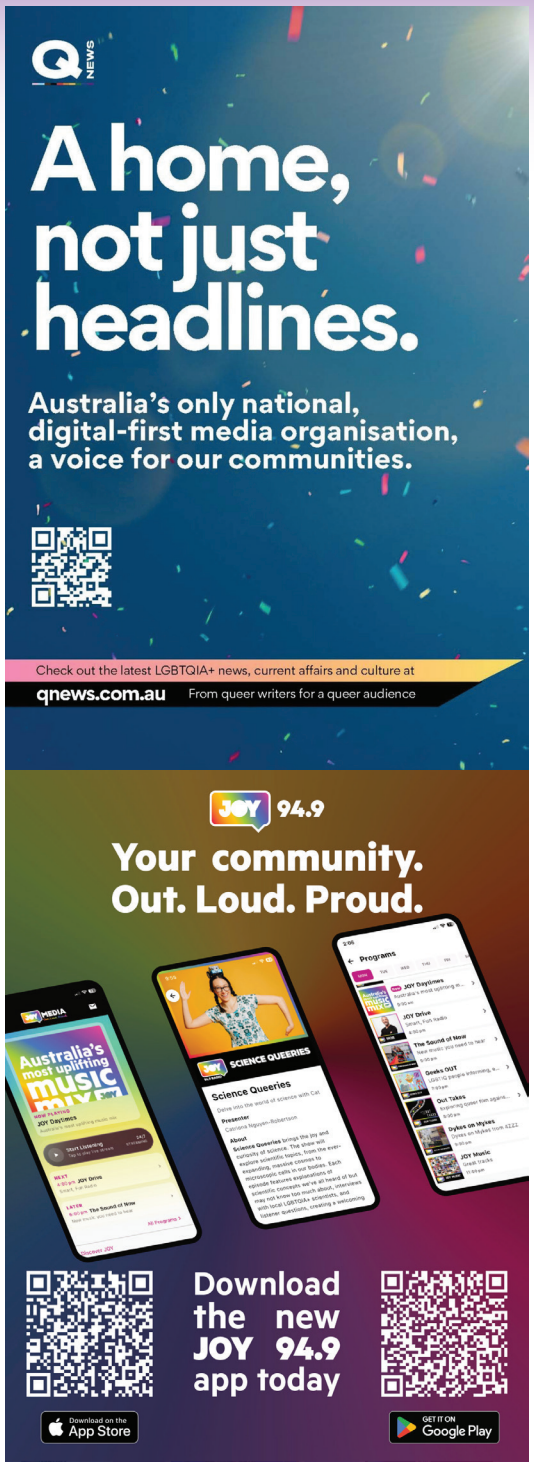
EVERY SHADE OF QUEER

Queerness has a million shades, and this collection of international short films is a celebration of this. From tender romances and messy situationships to bold acts of self-discovery, unexpected connections and moments of pure queer joy, these stories span continents, cultures and experiences. Exploring the beautiful complexities of identity, desire, belonging and everything in between, Every Shade of Queer brings together a vibrant spectrum of LGBTQIA+ voices from around the world. Sometimes heartfelt, sometimes hilarious, sometimes wonderfully unexpected, these films remind us that there's no single way to be queer. Find your people, discover new perspectives and celebrate the full spectrum of queer life.

SAT 21 NOV / 9:00PM / ACMI

TITLES:

- AMAN
- A MINOR GLITCH
- B
- BETWEEN POLAR GLASSES
- MUTUALLY ASSURED DESTRUCTION
- NEVER NEVER NEVER
- VOCABULARY





BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN

DIR. ANG LEE
CANADA / 2005 / 134 MINS / M

Winner of three Academy Awards, including Best Director, Brokeback Mountain is a sweeping epic that explores the lives of two young men, a ranch hand and a rodeo cowboy, who meet in the summer of 1963 and unexpectedly forge a lifelong connection. The complications, joys and heartbreak they experience provide a testament to the endurance and power of love. Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal deliver emotionally charged, remarkably moving performances in “a movie that is destined to become one of the great classics of our time” (Clay Smith, The Insider)

SAT 14 NOV / 8:30PM / NOVA



EVEN COWGIRLS GET THE BLUES

DIR. GUS VAN SANT
UNITED STATES / 1993 / 106 MINS / R18+

From the director of “Good Will Hunting” and “To Die For” comes a star-studded comedy based on the best-selling cult novel by Tom Robbins. Uma Thurman stars as Sissy Hankshaw, a woman who leaves New York behind as she hitchhikes her way to the lush pastures of a midwestern ranch to model for feminine hygiene advertisements. When she arrives at the beauty-ranch, Sissy is introduced to a band of free-living, free-loving cowgirls rebelling against their drag queen employer and ranch owner, The Countess. Joining the cowgirls in their collective struggle against exploitation, Sissy not only finds liberating comradeship, she also finds romantic companionship.

SAT 14 NOV / 3:45PM / NOVA



JARIPEO

DIR. EFRAIN MOJICA, REBECCA ZWEIG
MEXICO, UNITED STATES / 2026 / 70 MINS

Feature hybrid documentary that journeys to Michoacán Mexico’s hypermasculine rodeos. What starts as a celebration of tradition, descends into the subconscious of memory, queer desire, and longing. A reckoning with the wounds and beauty of a home left behind.

SAT 14 NOV / 6:00PM / NOVA

SCREENS WITH

AMOS, VOGEL
DIR. IÑAKI MIRANDA
MEXICO/2024/22 MINS

HOLDING YOUR BREATH
DIR. CRISTIAN VALENCIANO
SPAIN/2026/17 MINS

Céline Sciamma Retrospective



WATER LILIES

DIR. CÉLINE SCIAMMA
FRANCE / 2007 / 85 MINS

A love triangle forms among three adolescent girls who meet at a local pool over summer break and each desires the love of another.

SUN 15 NOV / 3:30PM / ACMI



PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON FIRE

DIR. CÉLINE SCIAMMA
FRANCE / 2019 / 122 MINS / M

On an isolated island in Brittany at the end of the eighteenth century, a female painter is obliged to paint a wedding portrait of a young woman.

SUN 15 NOV / 6:00PM / ACMI

ASIAN PERSPECTIVES



FUNERAL PARADE OF ROSES

TOSHIO MATSUMOTO
JAPAN / 1969 / 105 MINS / MA15+

In 1960s Tokyo, Gonda owns a bar in which the gay, cross-dresser and trans scenes meet. Part of the Japanese new wave film movement, considered a monumental work of queer cinema.

MON 16 NOV / 6:00PM / CHINATOWN CINEMA



GIRLFRIENDS

DIR. TRACEY CHOI
HONG KONG, TAIWAN / 2025 / 100 MINS / MA15+

Three love stories, three stages of life. One woman's journey through heartbreak, growth, and the enduring courage to love again told across three chapters, told in reverse chronology.

MON 16 NOV / 8:30PM / CHINATOWN CINEMA



THE DEEPEST SPACE IN US

DIR. YASUTOMO CHIKUMA
JAPAN / 2025 / 97 MINS

Kaori, an alloromantic/asexual, meets Takeru and begins to feel differently than anyone she has ever known.

FRI 20 NOV / 8:30PM / NOVA

Content warning: This film contains depictions of suicide.



LAN YU

DIR. STANLEY KWAN
HONG KONG, CHINA / 2001 / 86 MINS

A young gay student has a relationship with an older successful businessman. The handsome playboy-businessman must choose between his comfortable, yet straight, life or an honest, yet subversive, life with the student.

FRI 20 NOV / 6:30PM / CHINATOWN CINEMA

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THE DADS

DIR. LUCHINA FISHER
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 72 MINS

Amid rising anti-trans legislation and hostility in the US, dads forming a movement to support their trans and gender expansive children face an impossible choice.

WED 18 NOV / 6:00PM / NOVA

SCREENS WITH
AND AGAIN I DREAM
DIR. CATHERINE GUND
UNITED STATES/2026/40 MINS



I AM GOING TO MISS YOU

DIR. DANIEL RIBEIRO
BRAZIL / 2026 / 87 MINS

Amanda and Caio are a transgender couple who have been dating since high school. When both begin to face new challenges, their relationship start to change. Featuring an all-trans cast.

SUN 15 NOV / 3:30PM / NOVA



SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW

DIR. ANDY FIDOTEN
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 86 MINS

A hybrid live-action and animation comedy-romance that follows Al, an insecure trans cartoonist at a queer artists' retreat, who gets caught in a love triangle involving his best friend and a charismatic creative rival.

TUE 17 NOV / 8:30PM / NOVA

SCREENS WITH
ALWAYS AZIZAM
DIR. SHAYAN EBRAHIM
UNITED STATES/2025/12 MINS

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MUBI

SPOTLIGHT: FRANCE



LOVE LETTERS

DIR. ALICE DOUARD
FRANCE / 2025 / 96 MINS

A married lesbian couple expecting their first child navigates personal and political battles in this warm-hearted ode to queer resilience. Set in 2014, just after same sex marriage became legal in France.

FRI 20 NOV / 6:00PM / NOVA



LOVE ME TENDER

DIR. ANNA CAZENAVE CAMBET
FRANCE / 2025 / 134 MINS

Clémence, a lawyer, leaves her marriage to embrace her true self. Her ex-husband fights for custody of their son Paul, manipulating him. As their relationship deteriorates, Clémence struggles to maintain her maternal bond.

FRI 20 NOV / 8:30PM / NOVA

Documentaries



BARBARA FOREVER

DIR. BRYDIE O'CONNOR
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 102 MINS /
UNCLASSIFIED 18+

An archive-driven exploration of the life, work, and legacy of iconic, pioneering lesbian avant-garde filmmaker Barbara Hammer, told through her own voice and films.

WED 18 NOV / 8:30PM / NOVA



MANHOOD

DIR. DANIEL LOMBROSO
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 91 MINS

"Manhood" follows Dallas entrepreneur Bill Moore as he attempts to make penis enlargement as commonplace as Botox. Along the way, an OnlyFans star and a father of five put their bodies — and their insecurities — on the line.

WED 18 NOV / 8:45PM / NOVA



THEYDREAM

DIR. WILLIAM CABALLERO
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 88 MINS /
UNCLASSIFIED 15+

A director and his mother document their Puerto Rican family over 20 years, facing loss. Through vivid animation, they celebrate memories while realising each creation involves a painful goodbye. An award winning documentary at Sundance.

SAT 14 NOV / 1:00PM / NOVA



TEST

DIR. SAM MCCONNELL
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 153 MINS /

A small-town Ohio bodybuilder clashes with his devout mother as he pursues his dreams under a renowned coach.

FRI 20 NOV / 8:45PM / NOVA

CRUISING

WHEN WILLIAM FRIEDKIN'S CRUISING (1980) WAS RELEASED, IT SPARKED PROTESTS AND DEBATE FOR ITS PORTRAYAL OF NEW YORK'S GAY LEATHER SCENE. DECADES LATER, IT REMAINS ONE OF CINEMA'S MOST DIVISIVE QUEER TOUCHSTONES. SCREENING ALONGSIDE IT, MINESHAFT: THE CRUISING MURDERS IS A DOCUMENTARY THAT RESPONDS DIRECTLY TO THE ORIGINAL FILM.



CRUISING

DIR. WILLIAM FRIEDKIN
UNITED STATES / 1980 / 102 MINS / R18+

A police officer goes undercover in the underground S&M gay subculture of New York City to catch a serial killer who is preying on gay men.

TUE 17 NOV / 6:15PM / NOVA



MINESHAFT: THE CRUSING MURDERS

DIR. JEFFREY SCHWARZ
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 84 MINS

The story of the controversy surrounding the making of the thriller film Cruising (1980), the fierce protests around its production, and the real life murders that inspired the film. Emmy®-winning director Jeffrey Schwarz (Vito, I Am Divine, Tab Hunter Confidential) brings his signature storytelling flair to this gripping chapter of queer history where true crime, moviemaking, and LGBTQ+ resistance collide.

TUE 17 NOV / 8:45PM / NOVA

Australian Spotlight



BODY BLOW

DIR. DEAN FRANCIS
AUSTRALIA / 2025 / 99 MINS / MA15+

Disgraced cop Aiden is thrust into Sydney's neon-soaked gay district, where a chance encounter with Cody—a seductive bartender and sex worker—sparks a dangerous spiral. Blackmailed into working for Fat Frankie, a murderous drag queen mob boss, Aiden is drawn into a deadly heist and a twisted game of survival. As he battles desire, betrayal, and his own demons, Aiden must decide if redemption is worth the price of betrayal.

SAT 14 NOV / 9:15PM / ACMI



TENDER BOY

DIR. LEE GALEA
AUSTRALIA / 2026 / 88 MINS

WORLD PREMIERE

A gay love story that centres on the relationship between Noah, a bartender, and Cody, a football player who wants to be open about his identity before being drafted to the AFL.



BEFORE I DO

DIR. GARY JAFFE
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 85 MINS

A lakeside bachelor party weekend devolves into chaos when the groom and his best man's past romantic feelings reignite, entangling the wedding party in pre-wedding drama.

SAT 14 NOV / 3:30PM / NOVA



ROSE

DIR. MARKUS SCHLEINZER
AUSTRIA, GERMANY / 2026 / 93 MINS /
UNCLASSIFIED 18+

In the early 17th century, a soldier arrives at an isolated Protestant village in Germany claiming to be the heir to an abandoned farmstead. Sandra Hüller's knockout, Silver Bear–winning performance anchors this tragic folktale about a woman who poses as a male soldier.

SAT 14 NOV / 1:15PM / NOVA



BLACK BURNS FAST

DIR. SANDULELA ASANDA
SOUTH AFRICA / 2026 / 96 MINS

Black Burns Fast is a coming-of-age film about Luthando, a quirky 17-year-old at a South African boarding school. Her world is turned upside down by the arrival of Ayanda, prompting her to confront her identity and sexuality while balancing acceptance from her mother and peers.

SAT 14 NOV / 6:15PM / NOVA

Festival Schedule



GIRLS LIKE GIRLS

DIR. HAYLEY KIYOKO
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 95 MINS

A heartfelt coming-of-age story set over the course of one sun-drenched summer, where new-girl-in-town Coley falls in love for the first time while learning to accept herself along the way.

SAT 14 NOV / 8:45PM / NOVA

SCREENS WITH
LATERZ
DIR.CHELSEA INGRAM
AUSTRALIA/2025/12 MINS



THE WITCHY GIRLS

DIR. HALEY ALEA ERICKSON & ROBBIE SINCLAIR-TEN EYCK
AUSTRALIA / 2026 / 70 MINS

Two teen witches (Susan and Zelda) navigate the horrors of high school, dating and friendship with only the forces of darkness to help them.

SUN 15 NOV / 1:00PM / NOVA



THE MIRROR

DIR. MARCO BERGER
ARGENTINA / 2026 / 102 MINS

Young filmmaker Juan invites Mateo, a former actor who abandoned his artistic ambitions, to star in a short film about two men confronting a forbidden attraction. As rehearsals deepen, the story begins to feel less and less like fiction. Directed by and starring legendary director Marco Berger.

SUN 15 NOV / 1:15PM / NOVA



LABRADOR – AUTOPSY OF SILENCE

DIR. RODRIGUE JEAN
CANADA / 2026 / 120 MINS

As a cargo ship sails through a storm off the coast of Basse-Côte-Nord, a cook is found murdered on board. From the perspective of Alupa Tulugak, an Inuk mechanic and friend of the victim, this story reconstructs the events as a thriller.

SUN 15 NOV / 3:45PM / NOVA



DRUNKEN NOODLES

DIR. LUCIO CASTRO
UNITED STATES / 2025 / 83 MINS

Over two summers, between city streets and forest paths, young art student Adnan has a series of unexpected intimate encounters.

SUN 15 NOV / 6:00PM / NOVA



THE WINNER TAKES IT ALL

DIR. JAMES DEMITRI
AUSTRALIA / 2023 / 78 MINS

A campy, comedic indie feature film directed by fashion photographer James Demitri. Following its initial release, a new 2026 Director's Cut of the cult classic premiered.

SUN 15 NOV / 6:15PM / NOVA

SCREENS WITH
QUEENS
DIR. REA XENITOPOULOS
AUSTRALIA/2025/11 MINS



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TIGER

DIR. ANSHUL CHAUHAN
JAPAN / 2025 / 126 MINS

A 35-year-old gay masseuse finds himself pushed to the edge as his escalating clash with his sister over property ownership blurs the line between right and wrong.

SUN 15 NOV / 8:30PM / NOVA



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE EDUCATION OF JANE CUMMING

DIR. SOPHIE HELDMAN
GERMANY, SWITZERLAND, UNITED KINGDOM / 2026 / 114 MINS / UNCLASSIFIED 15+

Set in Edinburgh in 1810, two female teachers open a progressive school. Their lives unravel after a student makes a scandalous accusation about a forbidden relationship.

SUN 15 NOV / 8:45PM / NOVA



DIRECTORS CUT

TOMBOY

DIR. CÉLINE SCIAMMA
FRANCE / 20V

This highly celebrated French drama follows a 10-year-old child named Laure who moves to a new neighborhood and explores gender identity by presenting as a boy named Mikael. It is a landmark piece of queer cinema that won the Best Queer Film (Teddy Jury Award) at the Berlin International Film Festival and was heavily featured and was part of the MQFF 2012 lineup. Join us for the 2026 Director's Cut.

TUE 17 NOV / 6:30PM / NOVA

Festival Schedule



FLESH AND FUEL

DIR. PIERRE LE GALL / FRANCE, POLAND
2026 / 90 MINS / UNCLASSIFIED 18+

A lonely French trucker's routine life on the road takes an unexpected turn when he encounters a Polish driver. As feelings develop, he struggles to balance his demanding job with a chance at love, determined to make their connection work.

WED 18 NOV / 6:15PM / NOVA



JIM QUEEN

DIR. MARCO NGUYEN & NICOLAS ATHANÈ
FRANCE, BELGIUM / 2026 / 85 MINS /
UNCLASSIFIED 18+

A gay influencer's life crumbles when a virus turns Paris's gay men straight. He teams up with a twink to find a rumored cure in the Marais district.

FRI 20 NOV / 6:15PM / NOVA

PRESENTED BY THORNE HARBOUR HEALTH



MONTREAL MY BEAUTIFUL

DIR. XIAODAN HE
CANADA / 2025 / 118 MINS

A Chinese immigrant mother in Montreal breaks from duty and tradition when she falls for a young Québécoise woman, leading her to confront questions of identity and freedom.

SAT 21 NOV / 1:15PM / NOVA

Festival Schedule



BOOKENDS

DIR. MIKE DOYLE
UNITED STATES / 2026 / 99 MINS

When Nate moves in with his grandparents after a bad breakup, the two generations' life experiences, values, and philosophies collide in exasperating, funny, and heartbreaking ways.

SAT 21 NOV / 3:45PM / NOVA



GARANCE

DIR. JEANNE HERRY
FRANCE / 2026 / 120 MINS

Garance is a gifted young actress whose raw magnetism and vibrant spirit have yet to earn her the recognition she craves. Living paycheck to paycheck in a small Paris apartment, she feels increasingly suffocated by fleeting relationships, rising anxiety and the grip of an alcohol addiction.

SAT 21 NOV / 6:00PM / NOVA



MOONLIGHT

DIR. BARRY JENKINS
UNITED STATES / 2016 / 111 MINS / M

A young African-American man grapples with his identity and sexuality while experiencing the everyday struggles of childhood, adolescence, and burgeoning adulthood.

SAT 21 NOV / 6:15PM / NOVA

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Festival Schedule



AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

INTERIOR

DIR. PASCAL SCHUH
GERMANY / 2025 / 96 MINS

Kasimir uses a hollow couch to infiltrate houses. Once inside, he secretly films the owners' lives. A few days later the couch is picked up again, with Kasimir inside: "Delivery Error". He delivers the tapes to the brain surgeon Dr. Liebermann, who is trying to learn how to feel human emotions.

SAT 21 NOV / 8:30PM / NOVA



DRIP LIKE COFFEE

DIR. ANAIIS CISCO
UNITED STATES / 2024 / 91 MINS

In Brooklyn, Kali is a creative barista juggling the weight of providing for a needy boyfriend and a boss who ignores her fresh coffee drink ideas. When Kali's long-time coworker suggests she enter a coffee competition, Kali shrugs it off until the artistic Mel becomes her co-worker. Working closely together in the café, Kali and Mel find their passions re-awakened. Their attraction sparks an unexpected romance, stirring up disruptions in their homes, and testing their understanding of love and relationships.

SAT 21 NOV / 8:45PM / NOVA



COWARD

DIR. LUKAS DHONT
BELGIUM, FRANCE, NETHERANDS / 2026 / 120 MINS / UNCLASSIFIED 18+

Pierre, a young Belgian soldier wants to prove himself on the battlefield during the First World War. Behind the frontlines, he meets Francis, who is asked to find a way to boost morale. A historical war drama following a clandestine romance between two young men—a disillusioned Belgian soldier and a creative, flamboyant tailor.

SUN 22 NOV / 1:00PM / NOVA

PRESENTED BY MUBI

Festival Schedule



A VERY LIKE CRAZY DATE

DIR. TIM KAMPS
THE NETHERLANDS / 2026 / 77 MINS

Two guys are having their first date, but end up in a hostage situation. A terrible predicament for a first meeting, but a perfect way to get to know each other.

SUN 22 NOV / 1:00PM / ACMI

SCREENS WITH
TRY
DIR. LEWIS BAYLEY
UNITED KINGDOM/2026/17 MINS





I RARELY WAKE UP DREAMING

DIR. ISABELLE STEVER
UKRAINE, GERMANY / 2026 / 100 MINS

A young queer Ukrainian couple's relationship faces ultimate strain when a gender transition coincides with Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

SUN 22 NOV / 3:30PM / NOVA

THE FIXATION

DIR. MATÍAS DE LEIS CORREA
ARGENTINA, UNITED KINGDOM / 2026 / 123 MINS

Álvaro, an accomplished photographer struggling with debt and his father's terminal illness, reluctantly accepts an erotic photography assignment designed to recruit VIP clients. But the project takes an unexpected turn when he discovers that its star is Felipe, a famous model with whom he shares a turbulent past.

SUN 22 NOV / 3:30PM / ACMI

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

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TRAM: ANY SWANSTON ST OR ST KILDA RD TRAM TO STOP 13 OR TRAMS ON ROUTES 35, 70 OR 75 TO STOP 6

CAPITOL THEATRE

113 SWANSTON ST, MELBOURNE

One Melbourne's most spectacular theaters, complete with an ornate ceiling and stunning Art Deco architecture. The candy bar will be open during The Capitol screenings.

TRAIN: FLINDERS STREET STATION

TRAM: ANY SWANSTON ST OR ST KILDA RD TRAM TO STOP 11

CINEMA NOVA

380 LYGON STREET, CARLTON

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.

TRAM: ANY SWANSTON STREET TRAM TO STOP 1 OR ROUTE 1 OR ROUTE 6 TO STOP 112

CHINATOWN CINEMA

MIDCITY CENTRE, LEVEL 1/200 BOURKE ST, MELBOURNE

In the heart of Melbourne's Chinatown, just a short walk from the CBD. Make a night of it with dumplings, noodles or a drink at one of the nearby Chinatown restaurants and bars before the show..

TRAM: ANY BOURKE STREET TRAM (ROUTES 86 OR 96) TO STOP 7, OR ANY SWANSTON STREET TRAM TO THE BOURKE STREET INTERSECTION, THEN WALK.

Industry Day

Industry Day is back for MQFF36 and open to the public!

This year we have three industry panels, where experts will offer invaluable insight to LGBTQI+ creatives on a number of topics, including partnering with Women in Film & Television and Heretica for two sessions, and a special panel event focused on applying for film grants for early-career LGBTQI+ filmmakers and film students.

The day will conclude with networking drinks at ACMI open to all LGBTQIA+ creatives and professionals and their allies.

We're excited to provide a space for queer creatives to mix, mingle and maybe even form collaborations for the future.

Location: Gandel Lab, ACMI
Date and time: 14 November from 10:30am - 5:30pm

To register your interest, email pattyabalos@mqff.com.au



Ticketing

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.

FULL	$70.00
CONCESSION	$60.00
UNDER 30	$50.00

HOW TO BUY TICKETS

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.

TICKET	TYPES	PRICE
SINGLE	FULL	$28.00
	CONCESSION	$24.00
	MEMBER	$23.00
3 PASS	FULL	$75.00
	CONCESSION	$64.00
	MEMBER	$62.00
6 PASS	FULL	$144.00
	CONCESSION	$123.00
	MEMBER	$118.00
10 PASS	FULL	$230.00
	CONCESSION	$194.00
	MEMBER	$188.00
ALL-IN-PASS	FULL	$450.00
	CONCESSION	$380.00
	MEMBER	$370.00
OPENING	FULL	$75.00
	CONCESSION	$65.00
	MEMBER	$62.00
CENTREPIECE	FULL	$28.00
	CONCESSION	$24.00
	MEMBER	$23.00
CLOSING	FULL	$75.00
	CONCESSION	$65.00
	MEMBER	$62.00

Thank You

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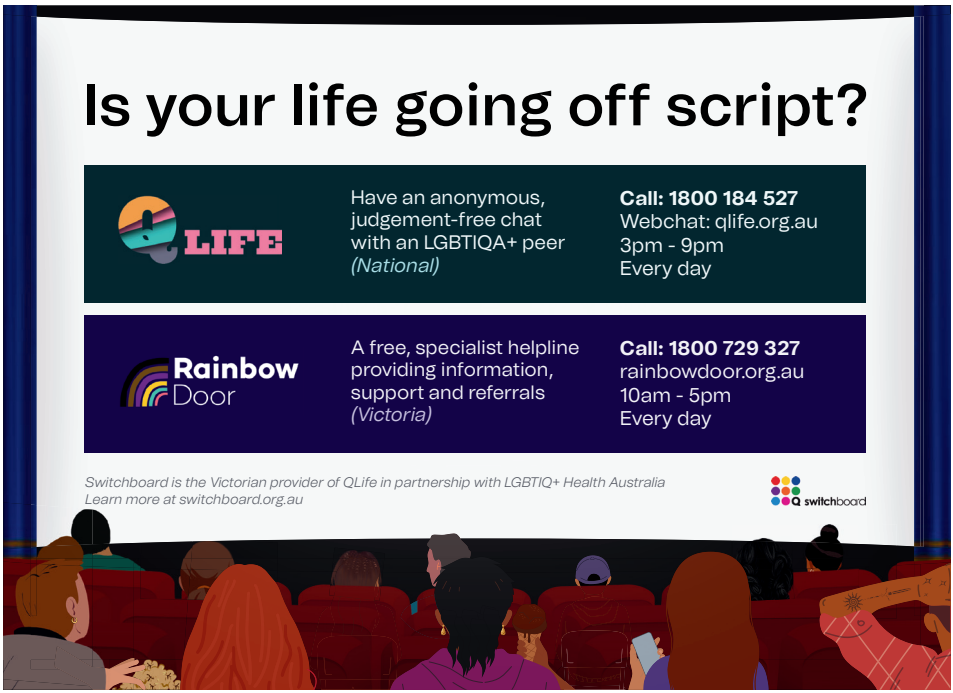
Gail Veal
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PROGRAM DESIGN

Patrick Adams
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CAMPAIGN ART WORK

Josef Gatti
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Chroma Film Lab



Thank You to our Sweethearts

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Colin Gunther

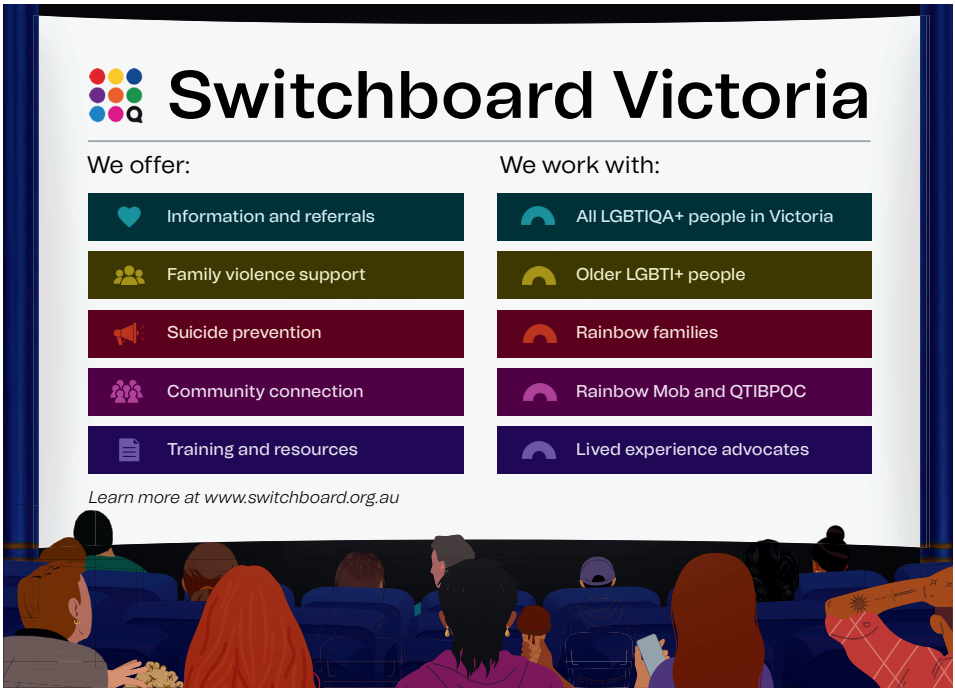
SILVER
Joseph Fernandez
Jude Munro

DIAMOND
Ant Jarvis & Mark Matthews
Richard Laslett & Colin Gunther
Samuel T Murray

EMERALD
Serena Cho
Ross Coller
Susanne Dahn
Rodney Garratt
David Imber
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Lee Centra & Ben Ladbrook
David Cheshire
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James Houghton
Mike Kendall
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Collins AM KC
Lan Wang
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