

FANTASTIC ²⁰²⁵

FILM FESTIVAL
AUSTRALIA

CINEMA WITHOUT RESTRAINT



2025 PROGRAM

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY
FANTASTICFILMFESTIVAL.COM.AU

24 APRIL – 16 MAY

ONLY IN CINEMAS

LIDO RITZ

Theatres
PICTURE
HOUSE

WELCOME

FFFA is a celebration of vibrant, boundary-pushing cinema, spotlighting unrestrained and wholly original voices from around the globe. This year we have a panoramic line-up of 27 films including 17 feature film premieres and 10 iconic classics, plus 19 short films, spread across three weeks of pure cinematic pandemonium.

We're thrilled to showcase an exceptional range of Australian talent with the premieres of four new Australian feature films, 15 short films and the long overdue restoration of *Summerfield*, an Australian masterpiece. These visionary storytellers offer bold and fresh perspectives, set against this strange, sunburnt land.

The centrepiece of this year's program is a retrospective of the extraordinary works of Lynne Ramsay, one of the most uncompromising voices



in cinema. Her work is intimate, unsettling, raw and profoundly human. The festival is thrilled to be bringing all four of her groundbreaking films back to Australian cinemas.

To close the festival, we're lighting the fuse on an explosive screening of the gun-fu masterpiece *Hard Boiled*, complete with a bombastic live improvisational jazz score by The Rookies. This is more than just a screening, it's an unmissable all-out sensory spectacle.

So, take a ride on the wild side this year. Find your new favourites, discover cult classics in the making, and join our community of likeminded cinematic explorers. Thanks for tuning in – and stay weird.

— **Artistic Director** Hudson Sowada

Artistic Director Hudson Sowada

Programmer Alexei Toliopoulos

Head of Festivals Paulette Arvizu

Content & Production Manager Bettina Kinski

Festival Coordinator Marc Repse

Design Ryan Beasley

Head of Marketing Jaymes Durante

Moving Story Marketing Candace Breerton,
Rachel Bostock, Oliver John

Copywriting Jessa Shields

Publicity Original Spin

Trailer Hudson Sowada

Materials & Conversion JORR

→ fantasticfilmfestival.com.au

Facebook @fantasticfilmfestaus

Instagram @fantasticfilmfestaus

Letterboxd letterboxd.com/fffa



Special Thanks

Richard Sowada, Emily Milledge, Hannah Chin, Rachel Bostock and Felix Hubble. To the Moving Story Programming, Operations and Finance teams, as well as the dedicated teams at Thornbury Picture House, Lido and Ritz Cinemas.

PRODUCED BY **MOVINGSTORY**

CONTENTS

Special Events

Hell of a Summer (Opening Night)	04
Hard Boiled (Closing Night)	05
Umbrella-Palooza (Triple Feature)	06
Cypher	06
Hardware	06
Pulse	06
Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery (Nude Screening)	07
The Films of Lynne Ramsay (Retrospective)	
Ratcatcher	08
Morvern Callar	08
We Need to Talk About Kevin	09
You Were Never Really Here	09
Preshow Shorts	27
Melbourne Shorts	28
Sydney Shorts	29
Session Times	31
Event Information	33
Tickets & Venues	34

Films

A Grand Mockery	10
The Balconettes	11
Dragon Dilatation	12
Else	13
Escape from the 21st Century	14
Heads or Falls	15
It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This	16
Maldoror	17
Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round	18
Mr. K	19
Pure Scum	20
Salt Along the Tongue	21
The Second Act	22
Sister Midnight	23
Spermageddon	24
Summerfield	25
Sword of Silence	26

FESTIVAL SPONSORS

brollie



LIDO
CINEMAS

RITZ
CINEMAS

Thornbury
PICTURE
HOUSE

FESTIVAL PARTNERS



The Guardian



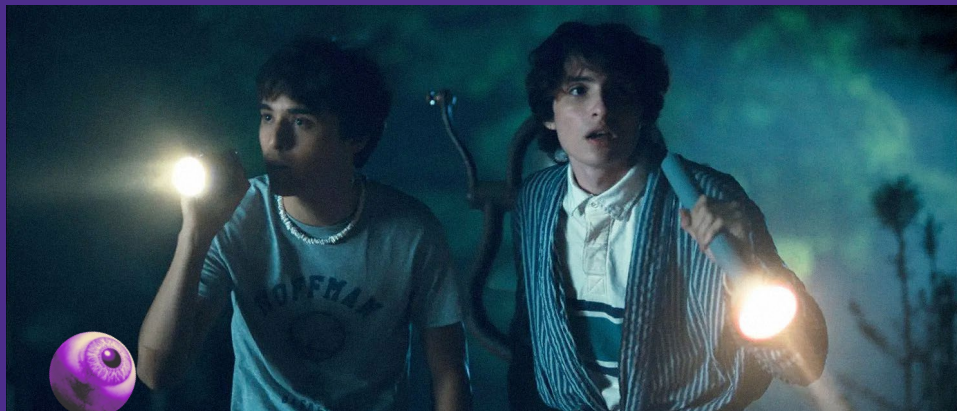
SHEEP WHEY
DISTILLERY



DIR. BILLY BRYK, FINN WOLFTHARD · USA, CANADA · 2023
88 MIN · LANGUAGE ENGLISH

OPENING NIGHT

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



HELL OF A SUMMER

“One of the most entertaining and crowd-pleasing slasher films of the 2020s.” — *Collider*

“Hell of a Summer leaves us eagerly wondering what Bryk and Wolfthard will make next.” — *The Hollywood Reporter*

Co-written, co-directed by and starring two actors who are well-versed in nostalgic horror reboots, Finn Wolfthard (*Stranger Things, It*) and Billy Bryk (*Ghostbusters: Afterlife*), this summer camp slasher pays loving tribute to classics like *Friday the 13th* and *Sleepaway Camp*.

Jason (Fred Hechinger, *Gladiator II*) is a 24-year-old camp counsellor returning to Camp Pineway for another summer, despite judgement from his much-younger colleagues who think he's a little too old for camp. When a masked killer starts picking off counsellors one by one, everyone immediately suspects Jason (it's in the name, right?). Everyone except Claire (Abby Quinn, *Knock at the Cabin*), the only one who finds Jason's earnestness endearing. Will the group figure out who the killer is before the bodies pile up?

Hell of a Summer is a post-modern horror-comedy romp that's aware of all the classic genre tropes, and gleefully subverts them with a wink and a cheeky grin. One hell of a fun time for our 2025 Opening Night.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
THU 24 APRIL ★ 7:45PM
SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
THU 24 APRIL ★ 7:45PM

★ OPENING NIGHT EVENT INCLUDES DRINKS AND DJ ON ARRIVAL. FOR MORE DETAILS SEE PAGE 33.

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2023

DIR. JOHN WOO · HONG KONG · 1992
128 MIN · LANGUAGE CANTONESE (ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

CLOSING NIGHT

RETRO



HARD BOILED WITH A LIVE SCORE BY THE ROOKIES

“Ultimately a confirmation of Woo’s indelible mark on the action genre, it becomes clear that, for better or worse, without Woo there is no Rodriguez, no Wachowski [Siblings], no Tarantino.” — *The Guardian*

Hard Boiled is masterful action filmmaker John Woo's last Hong Kong film before he broke into Hollywood with *Hard Target* (1993), *Broken Arrow* (1996) and *Face/Off* (1997).

It stars regular Woo collaborator Chow Yun-fat (*The Killer; Crouching Tiger; Hidden Dragon*) as tough-as-nails cop 'Tequila' Yuen, who loses his partner in a teahouse shoot-out. Determined to nail the guys who killed his partner, Tequila ignores the advice of his boss and continues his own investigation into an illegal arms syndicate, which undercover cop Alan (Tony Leung Chiu-wai, *In the Mood for Love*) also happens to be working on infiltrating.

Tequila and Alan must team up to take down the Triad gangsters in this operatic tour-de-force action movie classic, which culminates in a heart-stopping single-take gun battle set in a hospital. This is bullet ballet, violence as poetry, a sacred text for action fans.

Energetic and uninhibited Melbourne band The Rookies will perform a live improvisational jazz score to accompany the film, with a drink on arrival to close out the festival.

At Ritz Cinemas, we're proud to present the film in 35mm.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
THU 15 MAY ★ 7:30PM
SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
FRI 16 MAY ★ 7:30PM

★ CLOSING NIGHT EVENT INCLUDES DRINKS ON ARRIVAL AND A LIVE SCORE PERFORMANCE BY THE ROOKIES. FOR MORE DETAILS SEE PAGE 33.

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 1992
SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL 1993
HONG KONG FILM AWARDS 1993 – WINNER, BEST FILM EDITING





UMBRELLA -PALOOZA

"DIGITAL NIGHTMARES" TRIPLE FEATURE

FFFA is thrilled to partner with kindred spirits at **Umbrella Entertainment** for an epic triple feature delving into the horrors borne from technology. Join us for a day of screenings, talks, and giveaways as we uncover the ghosts in the machine and explore the dark side of the digital age.

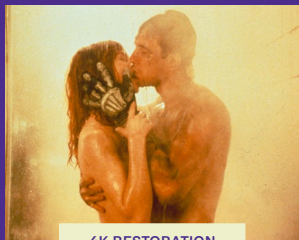
Melbourne & Sydney — Lido & Ritz Cinemas
 Saturday 10 May ★
 4:00pm *Cypher*
 6:30pm *Hardware*
 9:00pm *Pulse*
 For more details see page 33.



CYPHER

DIR. VINCENZO NATALI • USA • 2002
 95 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

This cerebral sci-fi espionage thriller from the director of *Cube* (1997) and *Splice* (2009), starring Jeremy Northam and Lucy Liu, is criminally underseen compared to some of its millennial counterparts like *The Matrix* and *Minority Report*.



4K RESTORATION

HARDWARE

DIR. RICHARD STANLEY • UK • 1990
 93 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

The stylish directorial debut of Richard Stanley (*Color Out of Space*), *Hardware* melds hard rock, industrial horror and cyberpunk dystopia in this gory cult classic about a cyborg that reassembles itself and goes on a violent rampage.



4K RESTORATION

PULSE

DIR. KIYOSHI KUROSAWA • JAPAN • 2001
 119 MIN • LANGUAGE JAPANESE (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

From director Kiyoshi Kurosawa (*Cure*), *Pulse* is an unnerving, sinister techno-thriller about a group of friends in Tokyo grappling with an unsettling presence emerging from their computers. A chilling, ahead-of-its-time vision of disconnection in a digital world.



AUSTIN POWERS: INTERNATIONAL MAN OF MYSTERY

"A funny movie that only gets funnier the more familiar you are with the James Bond movies." — Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times*

Oh behave! We're bringing back our popular nude screening event with a groovy presentation of the shagadelic comedy classic *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
 SUN 11 MAY ★ 5:00PM
SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
 SUN 11 MAY ★ 4:30PM

★ NUDE SCREENING

! SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR EVENT GUIDELINES



It's 1997 and British superagent (and world-class playboy) Austin Powers is revived from a cryogenic chamber, having been frozen 30 years earlier. His mission is to stop supervillain Dr. Evil – who also had himself frozen back in 1967 – from continuing with his diabolical plan for world domination. But the world has changed drastically in the last 30 years, and both Austin and Evil must adapt to modern times. Luckily, Austin has the gorgeous agent Vanessa Kensington to help him adjust.

Often cited as one of the best comedies of all time, this pitch-perfect parody of James Bond and other 1960s pop culture ephemera spawned two hilarious sequels, contributed a host of catchphrases into the cultural lexicon, and inspired everyone to have absolutely smashing 60s-themed dress-up parties for years afterwards.

THE FILMS OF LYNNE RAMSAY



Award-winning Glaswegian director Lynne Ramsay is acclaimed for her uncompromising vision and visually assured films that explore guilt, grief, death and its repercussions in emotionally powerful portraits.

RETROSPECTIVE

DIR. LYNNE RAMSAY • UK, FRANCE • 1999
94 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

RETRO



4K RESTORATION

RATCATCHER

“★★★★★ Set a gold standard of artistry for new social realist cinema – or cinema of any sort – in the UK.” – *The Guardian*

It's 1975 in Glasgow and the city is beset by a garbage collectors' strike. Black rubbish bags pile up everywhere and a plague of rats takes advantage of the situation. Twelve-year-old James Gillespie spends his days roaming around the council estate where he lives with his family.

One day, James playfully pushes another boy into the canal water for a laugh. The boy doesn't resurface, so James panics and runs away. Haunted by his guilty secret, James disappears into a trancelike reality as he tries to carry on with life.

Lynne Ramsay's debut feature is a bleak but lyrical and enthralling meditation on grief, guilt and adolescence.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SAT 26 APRIL 6:30PM
SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
SAT 26 APRIL 6:30PM

DIR. LYNNE RAMSAY • UK • 2002
97 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH, SPANISH

RETRO



MORVERN CALLAR

“★★★★★ It undoubtedly announces Ramsay as one of the most distinctive talents in British cinema.” – *The Guardian*

On Christmas morning in a small Scottish town, Morvern Callar (Samantha Morton) wakes to find that her boyfriend has died by suicide through the night. He left her a note, Christmas presents, a mixtape, money and an unpublished manuscript with instructions to submit it to certain publishing houses.

In a swift action of reinvention, Morvern changes the name on the novel manuscript to her own, sends it to the publisher, takes the money and jets off to southern Spain with her best friend, Lanna, to party the pain away.

Lynne Ramsay's second feature is hypnotic and bleak, with stunning cinematography and a transcendent central performance from Samantha Morton.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SUN 27 APRIL 6:15PM
SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
SUN 27 APRIL 6:15PM

DIR. LYNNE RAMSAY • UK, USA • 2011
113 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

RETRO



WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN

“★★★★★ A brilliantly extreme parable, operatically pessimistic.” – *The Guardian*

Travel writer Eva Khatchadourian (Tilda Swinton) was once a free-spirited globetrotter, but at some point along life's path, she settled down with Franklin (John C. Reilly), reluctantly becoming a mother of two. Her oldest, Kevin, is a handful from day one, and appears to be actively hostile towards her but loving to his father.

When Kevin commits an unspeakable act of violence, Eva is forced to reflect on her life, Kevin's upbringing, and the terrifying and unanswerable questions of her implication in his actions.

Lynne Ramsay's Palme d'Or-nominated adaptation of Lionel Shriver's novel is a chilling horror film examining the nature versus nurture debate in the formation of a psychopath.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SAT 3 MAY 6:30PM
SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
SAT 3 MAY 6:15PM

DIR. LYNNE RAMSAY • UK, FRANCE • 2017
99 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

RETRO



4K REMASTER

YOU WERE NEVER REALLY HERE

Atmospheric and restrained, this hitman story may seem like familiar neo-noir territory, but Lynne Ramsay's distinct visual style makes it unforgettable.

Adapted from a novella by Jonathan Ames, it follows Joe (Joaquin Phoenix), a professional hitman who's regarded highly for the brutality he brings to his work and the efficiency with which he leaves no trace. He's a haunted man, suffering from PTSD from a lifetime of being exposed to violence.

When he's hired to rescue a politician's teenage daughter from a sex-trafficking ring, Joe becomes embroiled in a dark conspiracy that puts him in grave danger.

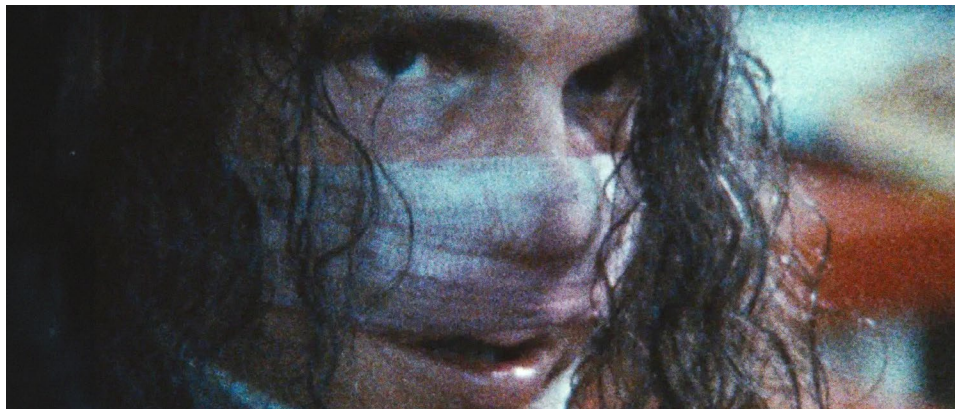
With nods to *Taxi Driver*, this is a hallucinatory cinematic gut-punch.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SUN 4 MAY 6:30PM
SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
SUN 4 MAY 6:30PM

RETROSPECTIVE

DIR. ADAM C. BRIGGS, SAM DIXON · AUSTRALIA · 2024
104 MIN · LANGUAGE ENGLISH

VIC PREMIERE



A GRAND MOCKERY

"★★★★ This is exactly what I've been wanting from contemporary Australian cinema." — *Letterboxd user*

"★★★★ Loved it, fucking mad, there needs to be more Aussie cinema pushing these types of boundaries. Bravo."

— *Letterboxd user*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
FRI 2 MAY ★ 6:15PM
TUE 6 MAY 8:45PM

MELB (THORNBURY PICTURE HOUSE)
SAT 3 MAY ★ 8:30PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
FRI 9 MAY ★ 6:15PM
THU 15 MAY 8:40PM

★ Q&A SCREENING – FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE.

SXSW SYDNEY 2024 – WINNER, BEST FEATURE FILM

A Grand Mockery is one of the most exciting examples of truly independent filmmaking to come out of Australia in recent memory.

Shot on soft, luminous Super 8 film, it follows Josie, a young man leading a life of passive mundanity in Brisbane. Slowly but surely, his psychic ills start to become more and more disturbing, so he sets out to roam the rainforest hinterlands of Queensland.

Winner of Best Feature Film at SXSW Sydney, *A Grand Mockery* stars co-director Sam Dixon and Kate Dillon (also known as Babyshakes Dillon of the Brisbane rock band Full Flower Moon Band). Structured as a diptych, the film is tonally playful, beginning as a work of morbid comic realism before it transforms alongside Josie himself. It's simultaneously singular and a flashback to underground filmmaking before it became codified.

PRESENTING PARTNER



DIR. NOÉMIE MERLANT · FRANCE · 2024
104 MIN · LANGUAGE FRENCH (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

NSW PREMIERE



THE BALKONNETES LES FEMMES AU BALCON

"Merlant piles up saturated, hot-hued melodrama, garrulous female bonding and cheerful lashings of blood and sex."

— *Variety*

"One of the most distinguished artistic visions on the Croisette." — *Cineuropa*

Star of *Portrait of a Lady on Fire* and *Tár*, Noémie Merlant directs and acts in this vibrant, gory horror-comedy, which she wrote in collaboration with her *Portrait of a Lady on Fire* director Céline Sciamma.

Marseille is struck by a sweltering heatwave. Roommates Nicole, a shy romance novelist, and Ruby, a sex-positive cam-girl, are visited by their friend Élise (Merlant), an actor currently playing Marilyn Monroe in a film, who's flustered from getting constant phone calls from her possessive husband.

Nicole has been quietly admiring their handsome neighbour across the street (Lucas Bravo, *Emily in Paris*) from her balcony. So, extraverted Ruby takes charge and charms the hunky neighbour into inviting the three women over to his apartment for drinks. What they hoped would be a night of sexy, sweaty flirtation turns violent, and the Balconettes must band together as the situation reaches boiling point.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SUN 4 MAY 8:30PM
THU 8 MAY 6:30PM

MELB (THORNBURY PICTURE HOUSE)
THU 1 MAY 8:15PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
THU 1 MAY 8:40PM
SUN 11 MAY 6:00PM

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2024 – NOMINEE, QUEER PALM

BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL 2024

GOTHENBURG FILM FESTIVAL 2025

FILMS

FILMS

DIR. BERTRAND MANDICO • FRANCE • 2024
114 MIN • LANGUAGE FRENCH, ENGLISH, GERMAN (ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



DRAGON DILATATION

“Masterfully combines poetry and decadence, formal elegance and underground roughness.” — *Cineuropa*

“An artistic dual filmic essay that is as flashy as it is metatextual and provocative.” — *InSession Film*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
MON 28 APRIL 6:15PM
WED 14 MAY 6:15PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
TUE 29 APRIL 8:40PM
WED 7 MAY 6:15PM

LOCARNO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024
FANTASTIC FEST USA 2024
SITGES FILM FESTIVAL 2024

The latest provocative experiment from French iconoclast Bertrand Mandico (*After Blue*, FFFA 2022) is here to split your brain in two.

Dragon Dilatation is the melding of two filmic essays shown in split-screen, with both pieces originally conceived for theatre but captured on film. The first, *Petrouchka*, is a re-reading of Stravinsky's famous ballet, set in an underground world of fashion modelling. The second work, *La Déviante Comédie*, is a kind of companion-piece to Mandico's 2023 film *She is Conann*, showing the actors in character for that film rehearsing a queer take on Dante's *Divine Comedy*.

There's a lot going on here, but Mandico fans know that his films are a lot – in the best possible way. *Dragon Dilatation* is bewildering, decadent, erotic, destabilising and ecstatic all at once. Expect drug-addled models in underground bunkers, a dog from hell named Rainer wearing a grotesque mask (if you've seen *She is Conann*, you'll know) and piles of severed heads.

DIR. THIBAUT EMIN • FRANCE • 2024
102 MIN • LANGUAGE FRENCH (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



ELSE

“★★★★ The visuals lend the film a grandeur that is intimate, poetic, and tragic.” — *Bloody Disgusting*

“It's an obvious labour of love captured creatively by cinematographer Léo Lefèvre and promises soul-shaking success from its director later in his evolution.” — *Indiewire*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SAT 3 MAY 8:30PM
WED 7 MAY 8:30PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
SAT 26 APRIL 8:45PM
WED 30 APRIL 6:00PM
WED 14 MAY 8:40PM

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024
FANTASTIC FEST USA 2024
SITGES FILM FESTIVAL 2024

After a mediocre one-night stand, anxious (and aptly named) Anx and rambunctious Cass find themselves riding out quarantine together in Anx's apartment. A mysterious epidemic has broken out, causing bodies to fuse to their surroundings. These two people, who couldn't be more diametrically opposed, are forced to get to know each other in Anx's claustrophobic space as they hide from the horrors outside. How long can they avoid this strange virus as it absorbs everything – and everyone – in its path?

This visually stunning body horror and feature directorial debut from Thibault Emin is an imaginative meditation on connection, intimacy, bodily autonomy and the fine line between pleasure and pain. Cinematographer Léo Lefèvre plays with colour palettes throughout the film – from vivid colour, to bleak monochrome and even a sickly yellow wash. The practical effects teams rise to the occasion here, creating some standout stomach-churning set pieces that will have you staring suspiciously at your furniture when you get home.

FILMS

FILMS

DIR. YANG LI • CHINA • 2024
98 MIN • LANGUAGE CHINESE, MANDARIN (ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

VIC & NSW PREMIERE



ESCAPE FROM THE 21ST CENTURY

“A blast of midnight movie madness with surprising emotional resonance.” — *Next Best Picture (NBP)*

“The gorgeous, energetic, and completely unpredictable love child of *Scott Pilgrim*, *The Terminator*, and a John Hughes movie.” — *Gizmodo*

“Incredibly fun and a blast of raw energy.” — *Neon Splatter*

This eye-popping, time-jumping adventure is like *Scott Pilgrim vs the World* mixed with *Everything Everywhere All at Once*, turned up to 11.

It's 1999 on the planet K, 3,000 lightyears from Earth. Three teenagers have a mishap with some chemical waste, which grants them the unique ability to sneeze their consciousness 20 years ahead in time. Unfortunately, in the future they're not really friends anymore and their lives have taken a turn for the worse. The teenagers decide to try and figure out how to use their new powers to change their futures – while saving the world in the process.

This is super-maximalist, larger-than-life, midnight movie fun that you don't want to miss seeing with a big crowd. There's *Street Fighter II*-style martial arts action, satisfying needle-drops from Bonnie Tyler and Joan Baez, and a surprisingly emotional message. Lean into the absurdity of the time travel logic, and you're in for a wild ride.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
FRI 25 APRIL 6:30PM
MON 5 MAY 8:45PM

MELB (THORNBURY PICTURE HOUSE)
FRI 2 MAY 8:30PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
SAT 3 MAY 8:45PM
THU 15 MAY 6:30PM

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024

SITGES FILM FESTIVAL 2024

FANTASTIC FEST USA 2024

DIR. LENNY GUIT, HARPO GUIT • BELGIUM • 2024
87 MIN • LANGUAGE FRENCH (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



HEADS OR FAILS

AIMER PERDRE

“..sheds a political albeit offbeat light on precariousness and the way women are depicted on screen.” — *Cineuropa*

“Maria Cavalier-Bazan is undeniably charming... [she] effortlessly carries *Heads or Fails*.” — *Reel News Daily*

Reigning princes of trash cinema, brothers Lenny and Harpo Guit return to FFFA after their gross-out feature debut *Mother Schmuckers* (FFFA 2021). Their latest agent of chaos is Armande Pigeon (Maria Cavalier-Bazan), a twenty-something compulsive gambler who never seems to have lady luck on her side. She's like the lovechild of Frances from *Frances Ha* and Howie from *Uncut Gems*.

One night, Armande teams up with Ronnie and suddenly everything changes – they win it all. But when you hit a winning streak, you have to – in the wise words of Kenny Rogers – know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em...

In true Guit-brothers style, *Heads or Fails* is frenetically energetic, painfully funny and gleefully unhinged. But it's also a loving tribute to the plucky hustlers in a young generation fighting to keep above water amid increasingly precarious circumstances.

Screens with *Demonboy* (pg 27)

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
FRI 9 MAY 8:45PM
TUE 13 MAY 6:30PM

MELB (THORNBURY PICTURE HOUSE)
TUE 29 APRIL 8:15PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
FRI 2 MAY 8:45PM
MON 5 MAY 8:40PM

FANTASTIC FEST USA 2024

BORDEAUX INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF INDEPENDENT FILM 2024

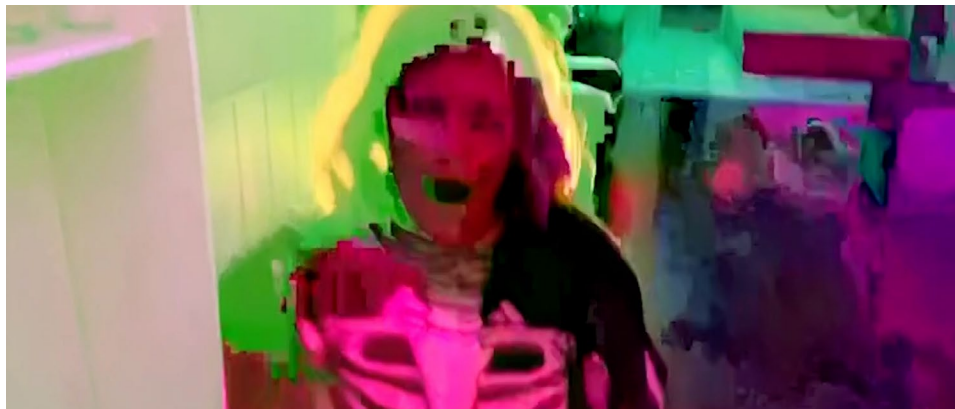
FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM GROLANDAIS DE TOULOUSE 2024 – WINNER, BEST FILM

FILMS

FILMS

DIR. RACHEL KEMPF, NICK TOTI • USA • 2023
84 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS

"A horror movie fan's horror movie." — *Paul Tremblay, author of Horror Movie, A Head Full of Ghosts, and The Cabin at the End of the World*

"Horror's hottest ticket." — *Variety*

"A masterclass of subtle horror." — *Dread Central*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SAT 26 APRIL 8:45PM
MON 28 APRIL 8:45PM
THU 8 MAY 8:45PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
THU 8 MAY 8:45PM
MON 12 MAY 6:30PM

SITGES FILM FESTIVAL 2024
TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024
SALEM HORROR FESTIVAL 2024 – WINNER, BEST FEATURE
QUEER FEAR FILM FESTIVAL 2023 - WINNER, AUDIENCE AWARD

The filmmakers of *It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This* have vowed to never make it available on streaming or as physical media, so our screenings may be your only chance to see this truly chilling film.

Part found footage and part documentary, the film blurs the lines between reality and fiction to a seriously mystifying extent. It follows indie filmmakers Rachel Kempf and Nick Toti (the co-directors, playing versions of themselves), a married couple who are horror movie obsessed. After buying a decrepit house in the suburbs of Missouri, intending to use it as a set for their next film, Rachel and Nick soon get the sense – much to their delight – that the house is actually haunted.

When Rachel and her friend Christian (also playing himself) decide to hold a séance, their ecstatic investigation of the house's creepy corners sets off a spiraling series of events and some of the most terrifying horror set pieces in recent memory.

DIR. FABRICE DU WELZ • BELGIUM, FRANCE • 2025
153 MIN • LANGUAGE FRENCH (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



MALDOROR

"Maldoror vigorously evokes the epic tales of crime and punishment that became a Sidney Lumet hallmark in 1970s American cinema." — *Screen Daily*

"The brilliant Anthony Bajon... proves we weren't wrong to place our faith in him." — *Cineuropa*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
WED 30 APRIL 6:10PM
SUN 11 MAY 8:15PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
FRI 25 APRIL 8:30PM
MON 28 APRIL 6:30PM

VENICE FILM FESTIVAL 2024
BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL 2024
SÃO PAULO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ROTTERDAM 2025

This brutal and gripping police procedural thriller is loosely based on a serial killer case that rocked Belgium in the 1990s and led to a full reform of the country's police force.

Paul Chartier (Anthony Bajon, *Teddy*, FFFA 2021) is a hot-tempered young police recruit, who is assigned to a surveillance operation with the codename 'Maldoror'. This secret unit has been formed to keep watch on the prime suspect in the case of an abduction of two young girls. But when the operation fails due to incompetence and inaction by Chartier's colleagues, the young cop decides to take matters into his own hands, becoming completely consumed by the case in the process.

Anchored by a towering performance by Bajon, *Maldoror* is a nail-biting, labyrinthine true crime thriller that explores the nature of evil and our willingness to confront it, no matter the personal cost.

FILMS

FILMS



MONKEY'S MAGIC MERRY GO ROUND

"Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round stands out not only for its striking visuals and intense psychological elements but also for its bold approach to existential horror." — *Love Horror*

"★★★★ A fever dream you just can't look away from."

— *Letterboxd user*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
FRI 25 APRIL 8:45PM
WED 14 MAY 8:45PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
FRI 25 APRIL 6:15PM
SUN 4 MAY 8:30PM

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024

James Jensen (Michael Gilio, co-writer of *Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves* and *Dark Harvest*) is the host of a children's TV show called *Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round* alongside a kooky cast of puppets.

Something really bad happened to James when he was a kid, but a case of amnesia has prevented him from remembering it. Until one day, while hosting the latest episode of *Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round*, long-repressed memories start to re-emerge, threatening his sanity and possibly his life. Will Monkey and the Playground Pals help James recover his lost memories, or have they been deliberately keeping something from him all along? Where is the Post Lady hiding? And who is The Freak?

A must-see for fans of the existential dread-inducing surrealist puppet series *Don't Hug Me I'm Scared*, this unsettling directorial debut by Aidan Leary was produced by Joe Swanberg (*The Rental*, *Easy*, *Drinking Buddies*).



MR. K

"A mesmerizing blend of Kafkaesque narrative and Lynchian aesthetics." — *CGMagazin*

"One of the boldest, most eccentric films that has made its premiere in the Platform section of the Toronto International Film Festival." — *Cineuropa*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SUN 27 APRIL 8:30PM
TUE 6 MAY 6:30PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
WED 30 APRIL 8:20PM
SUN 11 MAY 8:15PM

TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024

BUSAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024

IMAGINE FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL NETHERLANDS 2024 – WINNER, BEST FANTASTIC GENRE FEATURE

Move over hot rodent boyfriends, Crispin Glover is in town.

Glover, one of cinema's great character actors (if you haven't seen *Willard* (2003), we implore you to do your homework), stars as Mr.K, a travelling magician who checks into a grand, albeit rundown, hotel after an uninspiring gig. He's hardly set his suitcase down before he finds a man under his bed, a cleaner in his closet and an entire marching band emerging from the walls. Mr. K finds himself in a Kafkaesque nightmare in which he can't find the hotel exit, and his attempts to leave only further entangle him with the building and its curious inhabitants.

You'll lose yourself in the film's lush and masterfully confounding production design that turns the hotel into an Escher-like labyrinth of staircases and rooms. *Mr. K* is a surreal trip with no easy answers and a wildly unexpected third act. You'll be pondering this one long after the credits roll.

Screens with *Beaupré The Giant* (pg 27)

DIR. GIDEON ARONI • AUSTRALIA • 2025
93 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

WORLD PREMIERE



PURE SCUM

Recently graduated Melbourne private schoolboys Ayden, a book-smart prodigy turned drug dealer, and Jesse, a charismatic rebel, crash into another car late one night and flee to the city to escape the consequences.

Safe (or so they think) in the anonymity of the CBD, the adrenaline hits and the boys figure they should celebrate their close call with a drink. One drink quickly devolves into a night of unbridled debauchery and rapidly escalating violence. Meanwhile, the police are closing in and the boys can only hide under the cover of night for so long.

Pure Scum is a gritty, no holds barred examination of private school culture and the toxic masculinity that can fester in environments of extreme wealth and privilege. Interweaving interview footage with parents and friends of the boys as a narrative device throughout, *Pure Scum* exposes the dark side of Australia's "larrikin" culture in a distinctly Melburnian thriller.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
THU 1 MAY ★ 6:20PM
TUE 13 MAY 8:45PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
THU 8 MAY ★ 6:20PM
TUE 13 MAY 8:30PM

★ Q&A SCREENING – FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE.

DIR. PARISH MALFITANO • AUSTRALIA • 2024
113 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

VIC PREMIERE



SALT ALONG THE TONGVE

★★★★ Absolutely unique film – where every image was a vision – from camera work to blocking to costumes and production design this was full of original visual ideas.”

— Eugene Kotlyarenko (Director of *Spree*, *The Code*)

After teenager Mattia's mother dies unexpectedly, she has no choice but to move in with her aunt Carol, her mother's identical twin. As Mattia grapples with the loss of her mother and this new way of life with her aunt, a treacherous family secret begins to come to light. From beyond the grave Mattia's mother possesses her daughter, not only trying to protect Mattia from the same fate that befell her, but also to find reconciliation with her twin sister, using food as a gateway.

Writer-director Parish Malfitano (*Bloodshot Heart*, FFFA 2021) explores his own Italian heritage in this visionary second feature, with a haunting tale rooted in the *malocchio* (evil eye) superstition. Malfitano's screenplay was a semi-finalist in Francis Ford Coppola's American Zoetrope Screenplay Competition, and he calls the film "a love letter to my mother", taking inspiration from Pedro Almodóvar's *Volver*, as well as *Possession*, *Three Women* and *Don't Look Now*.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
THU 1 MAY 8:30PM
MON 12 MAY 8:40PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
SUN 27 APRIL 8:30PM
TUE 6 MAY 8:40PM

SXSW SYDNEY 2024
AMERICAN ZOETROPE SCREENPLAY COMPETITION 2021, JUDGED BY FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA – SEMI-FINALIST

FILMS

FILMS

DIR. QUENTIN DUPIEUX • FRANCE • 2024
80 MIN • LANGUAGE FRENCH (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



THE SECOND ACT

LE DEUXIÈME ACTE

“There's no shortage of hilarious surprises in a work perfectly crafted by its inventive creator.” — *Cineuropa*

“There's perhaps nothing Dupieux can't do at this point.”

— *The Hollywood Reporter*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
WED 7 MAY 6:20PM
SUN 11 MAY 6:00PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
SAT 26 APRIL 4:15PM
THU 1 MAY 6:30PM
TUE 6 MAY 6:30PM

**CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2024 –
OPENING NIGHT FILM**
**SPLAT!FILMFEST – INTERNATIONAL
FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL 2024**
**INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
ROTTERDAM 2025**

The court jester of French absurdist comedies – and DJ by night under Mr. Oizo – Quentin Dupieux is back with a meta-textual piece about cinema itself that doesn't just break the fourth wall, it takes a sledgehammer to it.

Florence (Léa Seydoux) is madly in love with David (Louis Garrel) and wants to introduce him to her father, Guillaume (Vincent Lindon). But David is put off by Florence's neediness, so he decides to try and palm off Florence to his friend Willy (Raphaël Quenard) instead.

That's the story. Or is it? Within the first few minutes of the film, we learn that Florence, David, Guillaume and Willy (in the capable hands of an A-level French cast) are all actors in a movie-within-the-movie making a cheesy romantic film that they can't stop complaining about. From here, Dupieux pokes fun at his industry and nothing is off limits – from cancel culture to #MeToo, from artificial intelligence to selling out for Hollywood.

Screens with *Bobblehead* (pg 27)

DIR. KARAN KANDHARI • UK, INDIA, SWEDEN • 2024
106 MIN • LANGUAGE HINDI (ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



SISTER MIDNIGHT

“★★★★ A feral feminist fable with a whole lot of bite.”

— *Time Out*

“First-time feature director Kandhari marches to the beat of his own drum, constrained by neither tone nor genre expectation.” — *Variety*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
TUE 29 APRIL 6:15PM
SUN 4 MAY 4:10PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
MON 5 MAY 6:20PM
SUN 11 MAY 3:40PM

CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2024
SITGES FILM FESTIVAL 2024
BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL 2024

Brash, rebellious misfit Uma is a newlywed in an arranged marriage to Gopal, a soft-spoken and supremely timid groom. Uma tries to settle into a domestic routine in the couple's cramped one-room apartment in Mumbai, but the pressure to fulfil the rigid expectations of an Indian bride wreaks havoc with her mental health. Until one day, an insect bite makes Uma feel strange, and she starts giving in to her most feral impulses.

This punky, feminist comedy-thriller is a confident, wholly original feature film debut from writer-director Karan Kandhari. Led by a phenomenal performance by Radhika Apte as Uma, *Sister Midnight* is captured with energetic cinematography, regularly employing whip pans and crash zooms to hilarious effect, and soundtracked with a delightfully unexpected mix of American blues, swooning Cambodian tunes and even Motörhead.

FILMS

FILMS

DIR. RASMUS A. SIVERTSEN, TOMMY WIRKOLA • NORWAY • 2025
80 MIN • LANGUAGE NORWEGIAN (ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



SPERMAGEDDON

“Spermageddon will play best with the kind of rowdy late-night audience looking for a good time, both on the screen and perhaps off it.” — *The Hollywood Reporter*

“An explosive mix of humour, vulgarity and tenderness.”

— *Cineuropa*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
TUE 29 APRIL 8:45PM
FRI 9 MAY 6:45PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
FRI 2 MAY 6:45PM
WED 7 MAY 8:45PM

ANNECY ANIMATION FILM FESTIVAL 2024

FANTASTIC FEST USA 2024

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ROTTERDAM 2025

This outrageously vulgar Norwegian animated musical comedy is like if Trey Parker and Matt Stone made *Inside Out*.

In a tale as old as time, teenagers Jens and Lisa are nervously getting ready to have sex for the first time on a camping trip. Simultaneously, Simen and Cumilla, two of the millions of spermatozoa in Jens’ scrotum, are readying themselves for the gruelling and against-all-odds journey to “nirvana” –to fertilise an egg. Will Simen or Cumilla make it past the variety of contraceptive barriers in their way and beat the villainous alpha male sperm Jizzmo to the finish line?

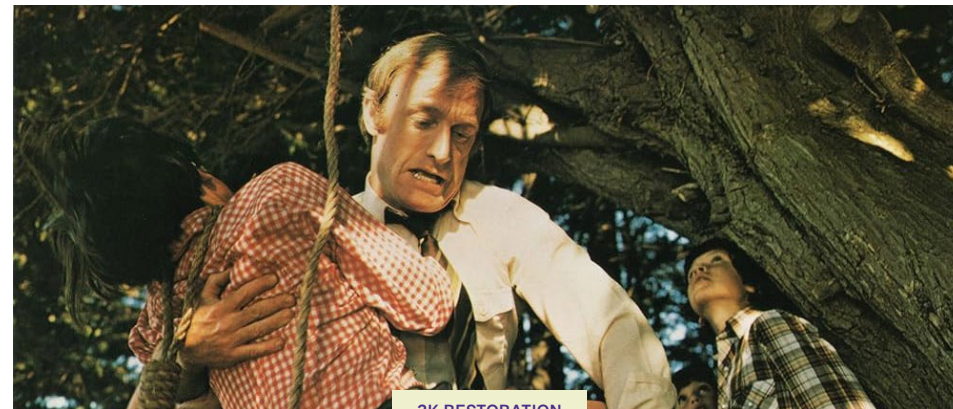
Don’t be fooled by the adorable 3D animation, this hilariously crude film isn’t for little kids. Although, its depiction of sexual consent, safe sex practices and reproductive rights are admirably progressive and educational. Through savvy movie references and Busby Berkeley-style musical numbers, *Spermageddon* takes aim at everything from masturbation to bowel movements. Leave your shame at the door.

Screens with *Brim Broome Boulevard* (pg 27)

DIR. KEN HANNAM • AUSTRALIA • 1977
95 MIN • LANGUAGE ENGLISH

RETRO

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



2K RESTORATION

SUMMERFIELD

“★★★★ Unbelievable that this isn’t talked about in the same breath as other Australian new wave classics like *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, *Celia*, even *Wake in Fright*.”

— *Letterboxd user*

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)
SAT 26 APRIL 4:20PM
MON 12 MAY 6:30PM

MELB (THORNBURY PICTURE HOUSE)
SUN 4 MAY 3:00PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)
TUE 29 APRIL 6:30PM
TUE 13 MAY 6:20PM

A descendant of *Wake in Fright* (1971) and *The Wicker Man* (1973), *Summerfield* follows schoolteacher Simon Robinson (Nick Tate, *The Devil’s Playground*), who arrives in a small Victorian coastal town to take over teaching after his predecessor, Peter Flynn, inexplicably disappeared.

The locals seem strangely unperturbed by Peter’s disappearance and unsettlingly cold towards Simon. But Simon manages to at least become friendly with Jenny, who lives with her daughter Sally and twin brother David on a small private island called ‘Summerfield’.

Simon gradually starts to investigate Peter’s disappearance, desperate to make things add up. As he gets further and further entwined in the mystery, other town secrets begin to come to light, leading to dire and irreversible consequences.

This underseen Australian mystery thriller shares a writer, producer and composer with Peter Weir’s *Picnic at Hanging Rock* (1975), and its absolutely jaw-dropping ending remains just as shocking today as it was almost 50 years ago.



SWORD OF SILENCE

Shot over the course of five years using only the natural light of the full moon, *Sword of Silence* is alternative filmmaking at its most mystical and in tune with the Earth.

A mysterious dark figure walks through a world of endless moonlight. Wielding an object of ancient power, the traveller is driven by the call of a cosmic voice, guiding them through a twisted land inhabited by miscreants and wretches.

This surreal dark fantasy was filmed in Queensland's hinterland with an unconventional method that involved shooting the whole film chronologically, writing and storyboarding along the way, and scheduling photography on the night of the full moon. The film used handmade practical effects, and each scene was reviewed and edited before the filmmakers would move ahead and write the next scene.

The result is an extraordinarily atmospheric work unlike any Australian film before it, rich with esoteric symbology, a mesmerising soundscape and striking monochrome imagery.

MELB (LIDO CINEMAS)

FRI 2 MAY ★ 8:50PM
MON 5 MAY 6:20PM

SYD (RITZ CINEMAS)

FRI 9 MAY ★ 8:50PM
WED 14 MAY 6:15PM

★ Q&A SCREENING – FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE.

PRESHOW SHORTS



We have prepared a tantalizing program of bite-sized stories from around the world to set the mood of your feature film feast. These shorts are bold, flavourful, and guaranteed to whet your cinematic appetite. Bon Appetit!



AUS PREMIERE

BEAUPRÉ THE GIANT SCREENS WITH MR. K (PG 19)

DIR. ALAIN FOURNIER • CANADA • 8 MIN
LANGUAGE FRENCH (WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

Beaupré the Giant marked his era with his 8'3". Died too young and far from home in 1904, his journey as a phenomenon was only just beginning. In a stunning series of twists and turns, his mummified body will take more than 80 years to find its way home.

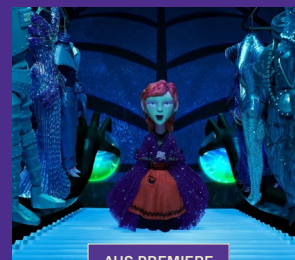


AUS PREMIERE

BOBBLEHEAD SCREENS WITH THE SECOND ACT (PG 22)

DIR. PIERRE-MARIE CHARBONNIER & SIMON PIERRAT
FRANCE • 15 MIN • LANGUAGE FRENCH (ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

In a car dealership, Fred, influenced by a salesman, falls under the spell of a vintage car. Inside the car, there's a bobblehead dog that seems to want to talk to him, to the detriment of Fred and his relationship.

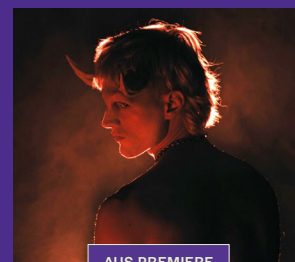


AUS PREMIERE

BRIM BROOM BOULEVARD SCREENS WITH SPERMAGEDDON (PG 24)

DIR. PJ MAGERKO-LIQUORICE • USA • 7 MIN
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

When a child wanders through a set of mysterious doors, they embark on a journey of self-discovery where fear and fashion intertwine.



AUS PREMIERE

DEMONBOY SCREENS WITH HEAD OR FAILS (PG 15)

DIR. AARON LOVETT • USA • 11 MIN
LANGUAGE ENGLISH

A reclusive twenty-something develops an all-consuming obsession with another man he encounters on the internet.

MELBOURNE SHORTS

We're thrilled to present a panoramic program of shorts from our emerging talent here in Melb and Syd. These bold and visionary voices capture the pulse and stories of today. Join us for a celebration of local talent and see a glimpse at the future of Australian filmmaking.

Melbourne —
Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn
Wednesday 30 April, 6:45pm ★



BOTTLENECK

DIR. LOTTE SWEENEY • 9 MIN
A fight tears through a quaint cocktail bar leaving three bartenders to process their shock and navigate newly raw relationships.



CHRYSALIS

DIR. LACHLAN PLAIN • 7 MIN
'Chrysalis' is an animated meditation on metamorphosis.



EDIE AND AUDREY

DIR. ALEXANDRA MILLEN • 9 MIN
An older sister takes her younger sister out of the house for a day of movies, arcade games and bowling as a distraction from a more ominous situation unravelling back at home.



HANDHOLD

DIR. YIANNI ROWLANDS • 6 MIN
After witnessing the passing of his grandfather, a young man attempts to reconnect with his estranged father.



HASSAN

DIR. AMMAR YONIS • 15 MIN
A teenage boy is taught a valuable lesson about friendship when his new group of friends leave him behind at a crime scene.



RED EYES

DIR. SAM PATES • 11 MIN
Two friends go camping in a historical mining town, but they have different motives for the weekend.



SISTERS

DIR. LUKE NEHER & SAM GILL • 17 MIN
Jacqui's sister Leia comes home for a week to help her decide whether to sell their late mother's house. Leia thinks Jacqui should learn to communicate with the dead.



A WALK WITH KATE

DIR. GAIA MITTING • 14 MIN
Kate Kelly, sister of infamous Australian outlaw Ned Kelly, embarks on a bush walk which draws her through increasingly visceral memories of her own extraordinary, tumultuous life.

SYDNEY SHORTS



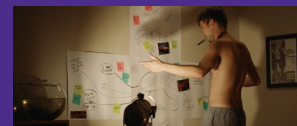
BLUEBIRD

DIR. DARWIN SCHULZE • 13 MIN
A princess vows revenge after her one true love is taken from her.



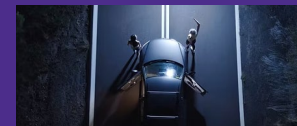
CONSUME

DIR. ALIYAH KNIGHT • 12 MIN
Esther is a seventeen-year-old schoolgirl who has been raised in a deeply religious household. When she finds herself alone with her best friend, Esther delves too far into desire, and cannibalises her friend – or so she thinks.



KAR

DIR. NICK ALLEN • 11 MIN
A filmmaker wants to make a road movie about 'fragile masculinity' that announces him as an Australian auteur. Only problem is: he's self-funding a short film.



LOST

DIR. ADRIAN SAMSON • 10 MIN
Roo wrestles with sudden panic attacks, making each day more challenging than the last. In a bid for relief, her therapist proposes hypnosis. As Roo confronts her fears, the line between cure and madness blurs.



PASSION POP

DIR. CHRIS ELENA • 18 MIN
A woman on the eve of her 30th birthday is given a surprise gift she'll never forget.



TOBY

DIR. NAOMI BIRD • 12 MIN
Bryce's life unravels when a haunted doll named Toby becomes inexplicably linked to him.



VICTORS

DIR. MARIAH SAMRANI • 13 MIN
After playing an old record left to her by her late grandfather, a young pianist is suddenly transported to Victors, where she is welcomed by the host himself and becomes entangled in this mysterious place for the musically departed.

Sydney —
Ritz Cinemas, Randwick
Sunday 27 April, 6:30pm ★



Under no one's thumb but yours.

We're funded by readers, not billionaires

The Guardian is fiercely independent, which means we can report on fact, not fiction, at a time when powerful people are getting away with more and more.

The Guardian



PROMOTING ARTS & EVENTS
SINCE 1985

Get in touch to see how we can assist you with your next campaign at...

www.mrmoto.com.au



SESSION TIMES

MELBOURNE

LIDO CINEMAS, HAWTHORN

Thu 24 April

7:00pm *Opening Night event for 7:45pm screening of Hell of a Summer* ★

Fri 25 April

6:30pm *Escape From The 21st Century*
8:45pm *Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round*

Sat 26 April

4:20pm *Summerfield*
6:30pm *Ratcatcher*
8:45pm *It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This*

Sun 27 April

6:15pm *Morvern Callar*
8:30pm *Mr. K*

Mon 28 April

6:15pm *Dragon Dilation*
8:45pm *It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This*

Tue 29 April

6:15pm *Sister Midnight*
8:45pm *Spermageddon*

Wed 30 April

6:10pm *Maldoror*
6:45pm *Melbourne Shorts* ★

Thu 1 May

6:20pm *Pure Scum* ★
8:30pm *Salt Along the Tongue*

Fri 2 May

6:15pm *A Grand Mockery* ★
8:50pm *Sword of Silence* ★

Sat 3 May

6:30pm *We Need to Talk About Kevin*
8:30pm *Else*

Sun 4 May

4:10pm *Sister Midnight*
6:30pm *You Were Never Really Here*
8:30pm *The Balconettes*

Mon 5 May

6:20pm *Sword of Silence*
8:45pm *Escape From The 21st Century*

Tue 6 May

6:30pm *Mr. K*
8:45pm *A Grand Mockery*

Wed 7 May

6:20pm *The Second Act*
8:30pm *Else*

Thu 8 May

6:30pm *The Balconettes*
8:45pm *It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This*

Fri 9 May

6:45pm *Spermageddon*
8:45pm *Heads or Fails*

Sat 10 May

4:00pm *Umbrella-Palooza: "Digital Nightmares" Triple Feature* (Cypher, Hardware, Pulse) ★

Sun 11 May

5:00pm *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery* ★

Mon 12 May

6:00pm *The Second Act*
8:15pm *Maldoror*

Tue 13 May

6:30pm *Heads or Fails*
8:45pm *Pure Scum*

Wed 14 May

6:15pm *Dragon Dilation*
8:45pm *Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round*

Thu 15 May

7:00pm *Closing Night event for 7:30pm screening of Hard Boiled* ★

THORNBURY PICTURE HOUSE, THORNBURY

Tue 29 April

8:15pm *Heads or Fails*

Thu 1 May

8:15pm *The Balconettes*

Fri 2 May

8:30pm *Escape From The 21st Century*

Sat 3 May

8:30pm *A Grand Mockery* ★

Sun 4 May

3:00pm *Summerfield*

SYDNEY

RITZ CINEMAS, RANDWICK

Thu 24 April

7:00pm *Opening Night event for 7:45pm screening of Hell of a Summer* ★

Fri 25 April

6:15pm *Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round*
8:30pm *Maldoror*

Sat 26 April

4:15pm *The Second Act*
6:30pm *Ratcatcher*
8:45pm *Else*

Sun 27 April

6:15pm *Morvern Callar*
6:30pm *Sydney Shorts* ★
8:30pm *Salt Along the Tongue*

Mon 28 April

6:30pm *Maldoror*

Tue 29 April

6:30pm *Summerfield*
8:40pm *Dragon Dilation*

Wed 30 April

6:00pm *Else*
8:20pm *Mr. K*

Thu 1 May

6:30pm *The Second Act*
8:40pm *The Balconettes*

Fri 2 May

6:45pm *Spermageddon*
8:45pm *Heads or Fails*

Sat 3 May

6:15pm *We Need to Talk About Kevin*
8:45pm *Escape From The 21st Century*

Sun 4 May

6:30pm *You Were Never Really Here*
8:30pm *Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round*

Mon 5 May

6:20pm *Sister Midnight*
8:40pm *Heads or Fails*

Tue 6 May

6:30pm *The Second Act*
8:40pm *Salt Along the Tongue*

Wed 7 May

6:15pm *Dragon Dilation*
8:45pm *Spermageddon*

Thu 8 May

6:20pm *Pure Scum* ★
8:45pm *It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This*

Fri 9 May

6:15pm *A Grand Mockery* ★
8:50pm *Sword of Silence* ★

Sat 10 May

4:00pm *Umbrella-Palooza: "Digital Nightmares" Triple Feature* (Cypher, Hardware, Pulse) ★

Sun 11 May

3:40pm *Sister Midnight*
4:30pm *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery* ★

6:00pm *The Balconettes*
8:15pm *Mr. K*

Mon 12 May

6:30pm *It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This*

Tue 13 May

6:20pm *Summerfield*
8:30pm *Pure Scum*

Wed 14 May

6:15pm *Sword of Silence*
8:40pm *Else*

Thu 15 May

6:30pm *Escape From The 21st Century*
8:40pm *A Grand Mockery*

Fri 16 May

7:00pm *Closing Night event for 7:30pm screening of Hard Boiled* ★

★ Special Event
★ Nude Screening

WANT MORE
TICKETS FOR LESS?

FESTIVAL
FILM PASSES
NOW ON SALE

See page 34 for more information



SCULPTING IN TIME

THE FILMS
OF ANDREI
TARKOVSKY

THURSDAYS AT 7PM

PRESENTED WITH
CINEMA
REBORN

ANDREI TARKOVSKY FUSED PHILOSOPHY, TIME AND IMAGE TO CHART A COURSE THROUGH THE LANDSCAPES OF THE HUMAN SOUL AND REWRITE THE LANGUAGE OF CINEMA. WE'RE CELEBRATING THIS ENIGMATIC GENIUS — ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL DIRECTORS OF ALL TIME — WITH A COMPLETE RETROSPECTIVE OF HIS FEATURE FILMS, RUNNING FROM MARCH TO MAY.



PLAYING AT THESE SELECT CINEMAS —

RITZ LIDO



BOOK NOW AT
RITZCINEMAS.COM.AU
LIDOCINEMAS.COM.AU
CLASSICCINEMAS.COM.AU

EVENT INFORMATION

Opening Night - *Hell of a Summer*

Our Australian Premiere screening of the bloody hilarious summer camp slasher *Hell of a Summer* includes drinks and a DJ on arrival on Opening Night.

Melbourne — Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn
Thursday 24 April, 7:00pm arrivals for 7:45pm film

Sydney — Ritz Cinemas, Randwick
Thursday 24 April, 7:00pm arrivals for 7:45pm film

TICKETS: ADULT \$30 / MEMBERS AND CONCESSIONS \$25

Q&A Sessions

Join us at the below sessions for post-film conversations with these talented Australian filmmakers.

Melbourne — Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn
Thu 1 May, 6:20pm – *Pure Scum* with Gideon Aroni
Fri 2 May, 6:15pm – *A Grand Mockery* with Adam C. Briggs & Sam Dixon
Fri 2 May, 8:50pm – *Sword of Silence* with Reese Cleveland

Melbourne — Thornbury Picture House, Thornbury
Sat 3 May, 8:30pm – *A Grand Mockery* with Adam C. Briggs & Sam Dixon

Sydney — Ritz Cinemas, Randwick
Thu 8 May, 6:20pm – *Pure Scum* with Gideon Aroni
Fri 9 May, 6:15pm – *A Grand Mockery* with Adam C. Briggs & Sam Dixon
Fri 9 May, 8:50pm – *Sword of Silence* with Reese Cleveland

TICKETS AT GENERAL ADMISSION PRICES

Short Film Sessions

Meet local voices on the cutting edge with short films that capture the essence of genre cinema now.

Sydney — Ritz Cinemas, Randwick
Sun 27 April, 6:30pm

Melbourne — Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn
Wed 30 April, 6:45pm

TICKETS AT GENERAL ADMISSION PRICES



Closing Night – *Hard Boiled* and *The Rookies* live

We're closing the festival with a screening of the gun-fu masterpiece *Hard Boiled* with a live improvisational jazz score by The Rookies.

Melbourne — Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn
Thursday 15 May, 7:00pm arrivals for 7:30pm film

Sydney — Ritz Cinemas, Randwick
Friday 16 May, 7:00pm arrivals for 7:30pm film

TICKETS: ADULT \$39 / MEMBERS AND CONCESSIONS \$35

Umbrella-Palooza – Triple Feature

A day of screenings, talks and giveaways courtesy of our sponsor Umbrella Entertainment.



Melbourne — Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn
Sat 10 May, 4.00pm

Sydney — Ritz Cinemas, Randwick
Sat 10 May, 4.00pm

TICKETS: ADULT \$33 / MEMBERS AND CONCESSIONS \$30. INCLUDES ENTRY TO ALL 3 FILMS IN THE SESSION. SEE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO.

Nude screening - *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*

FFFA's nude screening event returns with a very special presentation of *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*. BYO towel!

Melbourne — Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn
Sun 11 May, 5:00pm

Sydney — Ritz Cinemas, Randwick
Sun 11 May, 4:30pm

TICKETS AT GENERAL ADMISSION PRICES. SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR EVENT GUIDELINES.

TICKETS & VENUES



Book now at
→ fantasticfilmfestival.com.au

SYDNEY

Ritz Cinemas

45 St Pauls Street, Randwick
(02) 8324 2500
ritzcinemas.com.au

MELBOURNE

Lido Cinemas

675 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn
(03) 8658 0000
lidocinemas.com.au

Thornbury Picture House

802 High St, Thornbury
(03) 9995 0040
thornburypicturehouse.com.au

TICKET PRICING

Single Tickets

Adult \$25
Concession & Members \$19.50

Group Bookings (20+)

Groups \$16
Lido and Ritz Cinemas enquiries:
info@movingstory.com.au
Thornbury Picture House enquiries:
hello@thornburypicturehouse.com

Special Event Pricing

Opening Night — Adult \$30 / Concession & Members \$25
Closing Night — Adult \$39 / Concession & Members \$35
Umbrella-Palooza (3 film event) — Adult \$33 / Concession & Members \$30
Q&As and nude screening at general admission prices.

Terms & Conditions

Concession rates apply to students, healthcare, pension cardholders and seniors. Member prices apply to Lido and Ritz Cinemas members as well as Thornbury Picture House members. All tickets are non-refundable. Tickets can be exchanged for a film at the same venue for a fee of \$2.50 per ticket at least 24 hours prior to screening. All information is correct at the time of print. Visit fantasticfilmfestival.com.au for the most up-to-date information.

Code of Conduct

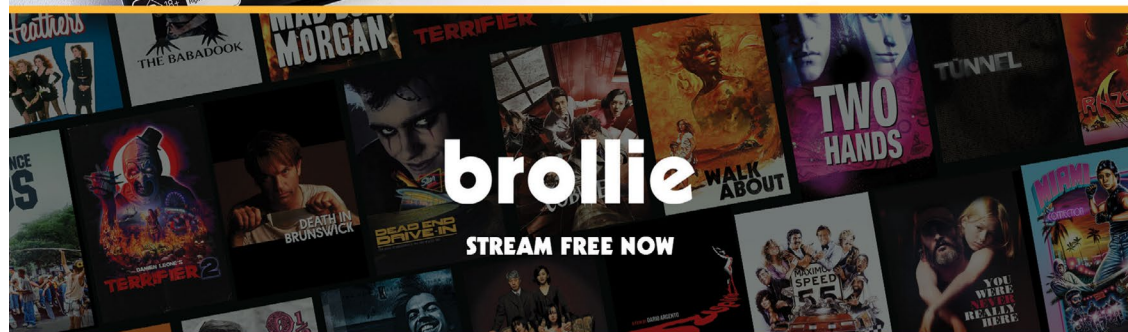
Fantastic Film Festival Australia does not tolerate inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour, nor any off-screen activities that cause anyone to feel uncomfortable or unsafe. If you experience any of this behaviour, we encourage you to approach festival staff. For Nude Screening guidelines, see our website.

FFA has received a classification exemption from the classification board. Unless stated otherwise on the website, all screenings are restricted to patrons aged 18 and over.



IMPROVE YOUR SHELF LIFE

UMBRELLA



brollie

STREAM FREE NOW

OVER 500 FILMS AND TELEVISION SERIES ■ AUSTRALIAN, CLASSIC & CULT CINEMA ■ NEW CONTENT ADDED WEEKLY ■ [BROLLIE.COM.AU](http://brollie.com.au)

FANTASTIC

LIDO CINEMAS
24 APRIL–15 MAY

THORNBURY PICTURE HOUSE
29 APRIL–4 MAY

RITZ CINEMAS
24 APRIL–16 MAY



MELBOURNE & SYDNEY
FANTASTICFILMFESTIVAL.COM.AU