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MARDI GRAS FILM FESTIVAL UPDATE



[Mardi Gras Film Festival](#)

February 13 - 23

There is just three days left of Mardi Gras Film Festival, so don't miss out on our 21st birthday celebrations. We're very proud to announce that 28 sessions have now SOLD OUT! Thank you for all your support - we are overwhelmed.

There are tickets left to some great films and events. [TWO MOTHERS](#) and [HETEROSEXUAL JILL](#) both screen tonight; the first is a great lesbian drama, the second a laugh-out-loud lesbian comedy. [GEOGRAPHY CLUB](#) is a sweet teen drama, while [PORTRAIT OF JASON](#) is a cinema classic. More great films are highlighted in this eNews.

[MY QUEER CAREER](#) is one of the highlights of the Mardi Gras Film Festival and Tuesday's gala made for a fantastic night. The eight films screened made up one of the best years of My Queer Career ever, and picking a winner must have been tough. Judges Margaret Pomeranz, Sandy George, and Jesse Archer made their decision and the prizes went to the following films.

Winner of Best Film

Winner of NSW Metro Screen Director's Award



ALL GOD'S CREATURES

Asher and Charlie are two very different brothers. Asher likes fishing and swearing. Charlie likes tea parties and crafts. One summer their relationship undergoes a test when Asher performs a mindless act of cruelty.

Director: Brendon McDonnell

Producer: Taylor Litton Strain

[View the trailer](#)

Winner of the Audience Award



THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE

In the middle of a French exam, Charlie struggles to find the words to be true to his best friend...and himself. He is growing up, coming out, and learning to speak the language of love.

Director: Laura Scrivano

Producer: Dan Prichard

[Watch the film now](#)

Producer of ALL GOD'S CREATURES, Taylor Litton-Strain is thrilled with the film's success. "All the films in competition were of such a high standard, so we couldn't be more happy to see that our story has had such resonance. It's an honour to be chosen to screen again to close the Festival. We hope to use the Award's prize money to help

distribute this film beyond Australia as we believe the story's themes of family, love and humanity hold universal appeal."

We would like to take the opportunity to thank our fantastic MY QUEER CAREER sponsors.

[Stephen Cummins Film Trust](#)

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[The Iris Prize](#)

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Wednesday

On Wednesday morning Auntie Mavis wowed the crowds for the Australian Premiere of [GERONTOPHILIA](#). Following the screening, we enjoyed afternoon tea with her. That evening saw the world premiere of [FRIENDS OF DOROTHY](#), in partnership with ACON, another massive success. The film garnered a wonderful response, as did the film's subject, the great William Yang. See some photos from [Wednesday](#).

Thursday

Yesterday we were thrilled to have all those involved in [OUT IN THE LINE-UP](#) present for its World Premiere screening. Simultaneously, we screened [WILL YOU STILL LOVE ME TOMORROW](#), and were pleased director Arvin Chen had come all the way from Taiwan for the occasion. See some photos from [Thursday](#).

[VIEW ALL FILMS BY TITLE](#)

NOT TO BE MISSED FILMS - FRIDAY 21 FEB TO SUNDAY 23 FEB



The festival is heating up and there's some unmissable films screening in the coming days. Make sure you're in the audience for these stand out selections that traverse everything in cinema from documentary to drama, comedy and music.



TWO MOTHERS
Friday 21 Feb | 7pm

When Katja and Isabella, happily married, decide to have a child, they are confronted with unexpected obstacles... and by each other. Screened at the Berlin Film Festival. [BUY TICKETS](#)



HETEROSEXUAL JILL
Friday 21 Feb | 9.30pm

Jill is trying to convince everyone - herself included - that she's no longer a lesbian. What better way can there be than to re-date her ex-girlfriend? [BUY TICKETS](#)



GEOGRAPHY CLUB
Saturday 22 Feb | 1pm

A group of high school students of varying sexual orientations form a secret after-school club where they can be themselves. Based on the best-selling book by Brent Hartinger. [BUY TICKETS](#)



PORTRAIT OF JASON
Saturday 22 Feb | 4pm

Described by Ingmar Bergman as "the most extraordinary film I've seen in my life," this compelling doco invites you to meet flamboyant hustler and performer Jason Holliday. [BUY TICKETS](#)



THE BATTLE OF THE SEXES
Saturday 22 Feb | 4.30pm

An illuminating doco of the historic 1973 tennis match between Billie Jean King and self-proclaimed "male chauvinist pig," men's champion Bobby Riggs. [BUY TICKETS](#)



SUBMERGE
Saturday 22 Feb | 7pm

Jordan is under work, study and family pressure. When she meets Angie, she escapes into a world of Melbourne's fetish clubs, partying, anonymous sex and drug taking. [BUY TICKETS](#)



BORN THIS WAY
Saturday 22 Feb | 6.30pm

An unsettling but poignant depiction of the underground gay and lesbian community in the West African country of Cameroon. [BUY TICKETS](#)



NOOR
Saturday 22 Feb | 9.30pm

This film offers a beautiful glimpse at love, loneliness and transgendered life in Pakistan through the eyes of Noor, a man simply looking for acceptance. [BUY TICKETS](#)



BEST OF GOLDEN WOOFs
Sunday 23 Feb | 1pm

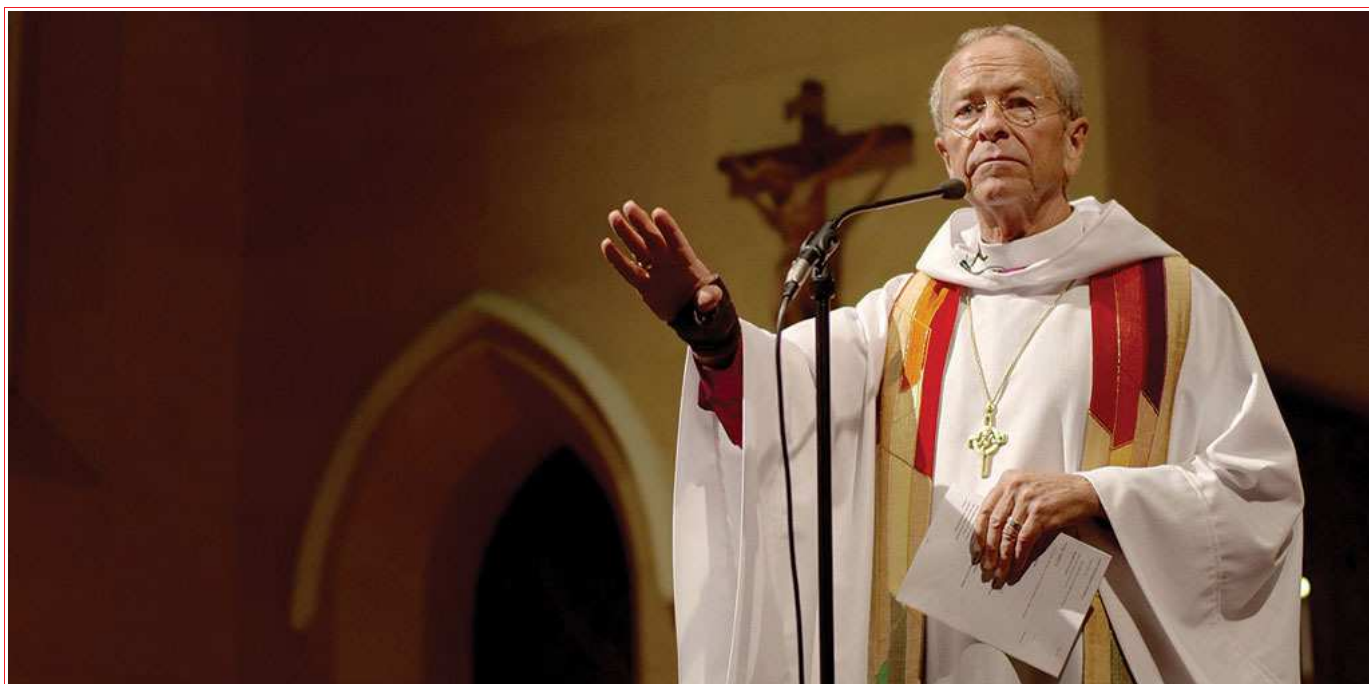
Short films featuring cute cubs, hot daddies, sexy otters, cheeky chubs, friendly chasers and infamous scruppets. [BUY TICKETS](#)



VICKY - THE GAY GENE COMES TO AUSTRALIA
Sunday 23 Feb | 3pm

Vicky Gene Robinson was consecrated as the world's first openly gay bishop... wearing a bullet-proof vest. Join us for the World Premiere of this documentary. [BUY TICKETS](#)

LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL GUESTS AT THE FESTIVAL



We're lucky enough to have some international and local guests on hand during the festival in the coming days, ready to talk about their films prior to or post-screening.

Local writer and producer Kat Holmes will be present for a Q&A after the screening of [SUBMERGE](#). The film is Kat's first feature film through her production company Kat Life Films.

Sasha Hadden, director of [VICKY - THE GAY GENE COMES TO AUSTRALIA](#), will be joined on stage by Father Stuart Soley, Anglican Priest from Fitzroy, and Anthony Venn Brown, who was a popular preacher in Australia's mega-churches.

Nell Schofield will host a Q&A with Fiona Cunningham-Reid, producer and director of [CROC A DYKE DUNDEE, THE LEGEND OF DAWN O'DONNELL](#), and Aniek Baten, who features in the documentary. Fiona has worked in film and television for nearly 30 years and was a founding member of Stonewall, the UK lobbying group, and we are delighted to have her at our festival, for her film which will close the festival.

WHAT'S ON AT THE FESTIVAL BAR



The Festival Bar, located in the foyer of Event Cinemas George Street, is jam-packed with events these coming days, with everything from parties to nightly DJs. Come by and indulge in a drink and some great music!

If you go down to the Festival Bar, you're sure of a big surprise. Our furry friends from the Harbour City Bears will be enjoying some drinks prior to the screening of [BEST OF GOLDEN WOOLFS](#). Brisbane's djmikeyb will be spinning tunes, in

this partnership event with the Bear Essentials 18 Festival, kicking off from 12 noon on Sunday 23 February.

We're pleased to welcome the filmmakers behind [ZOE.MISPLACED](#) and [SUBMERGE](#), both films directed by women and Australian debut feature films with a lead lesbian character, to the [Lesbian Filmmakers Forum](#). They will discuss their films, how they made them and how to make a film in Australia. It will finish with questions from the audience. The forum takes place on Sunday 23 February at 3pm.

Curtains close on the Mardi Gras Film Festival on Sunday night and we plan on going out with a bang, so make sure to pop by our [Closing Night Celebrations](#) from 6pm, where Sandi Hotrod, long time resident DJ at ARQ and The Columbian, will be providing the music.

Throughout the Mardi Gras Film Festival, DJs have been spinning tunes at the Festival Bar, and this is your last weekend to grab a drink and enjoy some tunes. The line-up includes: DJs Josh Kirby (6pm) and Ben Drayton (8.30pm) on Fri 21, DJs Matt Vaughan (6pm) and Cunningpants (8.30pm) on Sat 22, and DJ djmikeyb (11.30am) and closing night with DJ Sandi Hotrod (6pm-10pm).

ARVIN CHEN DIRECTOR TALK



Audience favourite [WILL YOU STILL LOVE ME TOMORROW](#) director Arvin Chen (centre-left), will partake in a special director talk this afternoon (Friday 21) at 5.30pm, in the Festival Bar.

The Taiwanese American film writer and director is best known for his film, AU REVOIR TAIPEI (Sydney Film Festival, 2011), a Mandarin romantic comedy film set in Taipei. [WILL YOU STILL LOVE ME TOMORROW](#) had its world premiere at the 2013 Berlin International Film Festival, and was selected for the World Narrative Competition of the 2013 Tribeca Film Festival.

Swing by the Festival Bar and join the conversation!

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