



10th
queer screen
film fest

23-27 August 2023
Event Cinemas George St



23 Aug - 3 Sep
On Demand Nationally

15-17 September
Blue Mountains



Welcome!

It's with great excitement that Queer Screen is celebrating not only its 30th year of existence, but also the 10th edition of our mini festival. I was one of the founding Board Members who organised the first edition, it was run entirely by volunteers and screened 7 films. Over the years it has continued to grow and 2023 will bring a hybrid festival featuring 38 films across 21 unique programs. We kick off with the best lesbian film I've seen in years on opening night and close it out with a witty musical theatre comedy, which comes straight from closing Melbourne International Film Festival. Slide into cinema, community and stories.

Lisa Rose
Queer Screen Festival Director



Blue Jean

Directed by Georgia Oakley | UK | English | 97 mins | Unclassified 15+

In Thatcher-era England, PE teacher Jean leads a double life. Closeted at work, she spends her nights with out-and-proud butch girlfriend Viv. But when a student spots her at a lesbian bar, Jean's carefully compartmentalised life begins to crumble. Set in the shadow of Section 28, forbidding the promotion of homosexuality in schools, this riveting debut is one of the best lesbian films in years and is more timely than ever as similar anti-LGBTIQ+ legislation is proposed around the world. Content warning, see website. [Opening Night Party tickets are available.](#)

WED 23 AUG 7PM, Event George St
FRI 15 SEP 8PM, Mount Vic Flicks

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Theater Camp

CLOSING
NIGHT

Directed by Molly Gordon, Nick Lieberman | USA | English | 94 mins | Unclassified 15+

After the founder of a scrappy summer theatre camp falls into a coma, its eccentric staff and students must band together to save it from closure. When her clueless tech-bro son steps in to run the show, drama instructors Amos (Ben Platt) and Rebecca-Diane (Molly Gordon), and production manager Glenn (Noah Galvin), are convinced the only way to keep the camp afloat is to stage a show-stopping original musical, in this farcical tongue-in-cheek mockumentary. *Theater Camp* will send Queer Screen Film Fest out on a high note.

SUN 27 AUG 7PM, Event George St



Triple Oh! + Fanny Scat Investigates

Directed by Poppy Stockell, Tony Radevski | Australia | English | 81 mins | Unclassified 15+

Two hilarious, homegrown comedy series get their big-screen debut. *Triple Oh!* is a comedy-drama about two ambulance paramedics (Brooke Satchwell and Tahlee Fereday) whose personalities clash when street-smart Tayls introduces by-the-book Cate to her policy of having sex when a patient dies. *Fanny Scat Investigates* is the comedic antics of a middle-aged drag queen (Trevor Ashley) who, together with her “opposites attract” crime solving partner Hassan, takes on local, no-job-too-small mysteries to supplement her income as a showgirl. **Followed by a Q&A with the filmmakers.**

FRI 25 AUG 6:30PM, Event George St



Commitment To Life

Directed by Jeffrey Schwarz | USA | English | 115 mins | Unclassified 15+

Acclaimed documentarian Jeffrey Schwarz (*I Am Divine*, *Tab Hunter Confidential*) delivers an inspiring look into the vital work Los Angeles locals and LGBTIQ+ activists did in driving public awareness towards the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Through rarely seen interview and archival footage, it also dives into the role Hollywood star power – including Elizabeth Taylor – played in fighting stigma and misinformation, as well as influencing funding for a cure. [Content warning](#), [see website](#).

SUN 27 AUG 4PM, Event George St + On Demand



Egghead & Twinkie (Wear It Purple Event)

Directed by Sarah Kambe Holland | USA | English | 87 mins | Unclassified 15+

Adopted Asian-American teen Twinkie is used to not fitting in. And now, having come out to her conservative white parents as gay – or potentially bi, but definitely not interested in best friend Egghead – Twinkie really has no choice but to follow her heart. Even if that means stealing her dad’s car, and tricking Egghead into running off to Texas to meet up with her online girlfriend, in this journey of self-discovery and friendship.

[\\$10 Tix and FREE for anyone under 26. Screens with Unerased \(10 mins\)](#)

SAT 26 AUG 1:45PM, Event George St



Drifter

Directed by Hannes Hirsch | Germany | German with English Subtitles, English | 79 mins | Unclassified 18+

Sexuality and vulnerability collide in *Drifter*, an exploration of queer identity in multicultural Berlin. When Moritz moves in with his boyfriend things take a turn and he finds himself adrift, searching for somewhere to fit in. He’s joined by a captivating scattering of fresh faces discovering themselves in beautiful, intertwining stories. Filled with sex, drugs, and clubbing, this is a fresh, gritty and poignant take on coming of age in our ever-changing world. [Content warning](#), [see website](#). **[Screens with Dogfriend \(18 mins\)](#)**

SAT 26 AUG 8:40PM, Event George St + On Demand



Equal the Contest

Directed by Mitch Nivalis | Australia | English | 77 mins | Unclassified 15+

Non-binary filmmaker Mitch Nivalis documents the challenges and joys of regional women’s Australian rules football club Mount Alexander Falcons. Following a wildly diverse group of people across the spectrum of age, body shape, gender identity, sexuality and skill level, they come together to courageously challenge notions of who has the right to play football. **[Followed by a panel discussion with Pride in Sport and the filmmaker in attendance.](#)**

SUN 27 AUG 2:15PM, Event George St + On Demand  



It's Only Life After All

Directed by Alexandria Bombach | USA | English | 123 mins | Unclassified 15+

It's Only Life After All follows Grammy award winning acoustic folk-rock band the Indigo Girls behind the scenes of their decades long career in the music industry. Having gifted a generation of queer fans anthems to live by in the '80s and '90s, this trailblazing lesbian duo reveal intimate details of their sexuality, friendship and their activism. If you weren't already a fan before watching, you certainly will be afterwards. [Content warning, see website.](#)

THU 24 AUG 7PM, Event George St

SUN 17 SEP 4PM, Mount Vic Flicks



Marinette

Directed by Virginie Verrier | France | French with English Subtitles, English | 95 mins | Unclassified 18+

Fresh from its world premiere at Tribeca and on the back of Australia hosting the World Cup, *Marinette* is a moving, intimate journey into the life of French soccer legend Marinette Pichon. From her ambitions to put women's sport on the map, to her desire to live openly as a queer woman, this film is a tale of one woman's courage to pursue her dreams.

[Content warning, see website.](#)

SAT 26 AUG 6:30PM, Event George St



Lie with Me

Directed by Olivier Peyon | France | French, English Subtitles | 98 mins | Unclassified 15+

Based on the acclaimed novel, *Lie with Me* is a sensitive and moving drama that explores the bittersweet intensity of first love and making peace with the past. A renowned author returns to his hometown after 35 years. At a book signing he meets the son of an old flame, with whom he shared a passionate summer fling when he was 17. This chance meeting releases a floodgate of unresolved emotions and questions. [Content warning, see website.](#)

THU 24 AUG 6:30PM, Event George St

SAT 16 SEP 8:30PM, Mount Vic Flicks



Medusa Deluxe

Directed by Tom Hardiman | UK | English | 101 mins | Unclassified 15+

Come behind the scenes of a hairstyling competition where the tensions are high and the 'dos are even higher! A stylist has been killed and the competitors, organisers and models are all at their wits end. It's hairspray at ten paces as suspicions are raised, things heat up and... who's minding the baby? (There's a baby.) This unique film unspools in real time, sweeping us up in one very camp, very hirsute whodunnit!

FRI 25 AUG 9PM, Event George St

On Demand Encores



Monster

Directed by Kore-eda Hirokazu | Japan | Japanese, English Subtitles | 127 mins | Unclassified 15+

A mysterious fire, a withdrawn child, a secretive teacher... When single mother Saori notices her son Minato has started acting differently she turns to his school desperate for answers. Is he being bullied? Mistreated? When accusations fly the truth becomes harder to pin down, as the film unfurls Rashomon-style across multiple perspectives. From acclaimed filmmaker Hirokazu Kore-eda (*Shoplifters*), this deeply human, twisty drama won the Queer Palm and best screenplay at Cannes.

SAT 26 AUG 6PM, Event George St



Peafowl

Directed by Byun Sung-bin | South Korea | Korean, English Subtitles | 114 mins | Unclassified 15+

A trans woman returns to her rural roots after her estranged father's passing, in this beautiful Korean drama. Shin Myung is a waacking star on the Seoul nightclub scene, but when her father dies she heads to the countryside to lead a traditional mourning ritual. As she expects, nothing about returning home is simple. Myung turns the community upside down with her charisma and defiant spirit, making for a captivating watch.

[Content warning](#), [see website](#).

FRI 25 AUG 7PM, Event George St



Anchor and Hope

Directed by Carlos Marques-Marcet | Spain, UK | Spanish with English Subtitles, English | 113 mins | Unclassified 18+

Beloved at MGFF19, Oona Chaplin (*Game of Thrones*) and Natalia Tena (*Harry Potter*) star in this film full of heart, humour and authenticity.



Center of My World

Directed by Jakob M. Erwa | Germany, Austria | German, English Subtitles | 115 mins | Unclassified 18+

Based on a best-selling German young adult novel, discover (or revisit!) the coming of age romance of MGFF17 favourite *Center of My World*.



Nina's Heavenly Delights

Directed by Pratibha Parmar | UK | English | 94 mins | PG

This gorgeous romantic comedy about a woman reuniting with her Indian family in Scotland was a hit at MGFF07, and remains a lesbian classic.

23 AUG - 3 SEP, On Demand Nationally



The Strong Ones

Directed by Omar Zúñiga Hidalgo | Chile | Spanish, English Subtitles | 98 mins | Unclassified 18+

Set in stunning southern Chile, simmering sexual tension builds to an intense romance between Lucas and Antonio, in this MGFF20 encore.



Gay Shorts

USA, France, Sweden, UK | English, French, Swedish, English Subtitles | 92 mins | Unclassified 18+

Near-death experiences, the disintegration of a relationship, and discovering unconditional love for the first time – these are just some of the themes explored in this eclectic collection of gay shorts. They're joined by films about the spark of romance between rival rugby players, one man's sexual awakening against the unique backdrop of a cargo ship, and the anxiety of being reunited with an ex (with a science fiction twist).

[Content warning](#), [see website](#).

THU 24 AUG 8:45PM, Event George St + On Demand  



Sapphic Shorts

USA, UK, France | English, French, Mandarin, English Subtitles, Arabic | 101 mins | Unclassified 15+

Featuring Bella Ramsey (*The Last of Us*) as someone caught up in the 17th century witch trials, this collection of shorts highlights stories about women and the people who love them, regardless of label or identity. With tales of unexpected family reunions, self-discovery through drag, and navigating insecurity in an interabled relationship, these films offer just a snapshot of the diverse Sapphic experience both now and in the past.

[Content warning](#), [see website](#).

SUN 27 AUG 5PM, Event George St + On Demand  



Trans & Gender Diverse Shorts

USA, Germany, UK | English, German, Korean, English Subtitles | 91 mins | Unclassified 15+

Centring the experiences of trans and gender diverse people, these shorts together explore the many ways people express their gender identity in everyday life. From the teen girl who just wants to fit in (*Heartstopper's* Yasmin Finney), to the transmasculine Uber driver who code switches with each passenger, through to the 12 year-old who's just begun their journey of discovery, this selection is at times moving, affirming, and even laugh-out-loud funny. [Content warning](#), [see website](#).

SAT 26 AUG 4PM, Event George St + On Demand  



Queer Screen Pitch Off!

Queer Screen is thrilled for the return of Pitch Off! Up to six filmmakers will spruik their film proposal to a panel of expert assessors, competing for a chance to win \$10,000 to produce their short film. Pitch Off is another example of our ongoing commitment in supporting emerging filmmakers to share the diversity of our community's stories on screen.

Visit queerscreen.org.au for more information.

SUN 27 AUG 2PM, Event George St - Set Bar

Festival Schedule - Event Cinemas George St

DATE	MOVIE	TIME
WED 23 AUG	Blue Jean	7:00 PM
THU 24 AUG	Lie with Me	6:30 PM
	It's Only Life After All	7:00 PM
	Gay Shorts	8:45 PM
FRI 25 AUG	Triple Oh! + Fanny Scat Investigates	6:30 PM
	Peafowl	7:00 PM
	Medusa Deluxe	9:00 PM
SAT 26 AUG	Egghead & Twinkie	1:45 PM
	Trans & Gender Diverse Shorts	4:00 PM
	Monster	6:00 PM
	Marinette	6:30 PM
	Drifter	8:40 PM
SUN 27 AUG	Queer Screen Pitch Off	2:00 PM
	Equal the Contest	2:15 PM
	Commitment to Life	4:00 PM
	Sapphic Shorts	5:00 PM
	Theater Camp	7:00 PM

Festival Schedule - Mount Vic Flicks

DATE	MOVIE	TIME
FRI 15 SEP	Blue Jean	8:00 PM
SAT 16 SEP	Best of QSFF23 Shorts	6:00 PM
	Lie with Me	8:30 PM
SUN 17 SEP	It's Only Life After All	4:00 PM

Credits

Festival Director:

Lisa Rose

Festival Producer:

Michael McCurdie

Head of Partnerships:

Paul Kennedy

paul.kennedy@queerscreen.org.au

Programming Assistant

& Coordinator:

Andrew Wilkie

Digital Marketing Executive:

Adrik Kemp

Publicity:

Vanessa McQuarrie

Graphic Design & Illustration:

Luke Tribe

Web Design:

Design Logic

Bookkeeper:

Adam Bold

Festival Trailer:

Shannon Michaelas at The Editors

Key Volunteers:

Boden Evans, Cameron Bayley, David Blanco, Sanouk Peiper, Sevana Ohandjanian, Susan McDonald, Troy Byrnes, Will Dishon and the entire Programming Prescreeener team.

Board of Directors

Co-chairs:

Abs Osseiran, Angela Ruchin

Treasurer:

Abs Osseiran

Company Secretary:

Lara Sabbadin

Directors:

Finn O'Keefe (Digital Engagement Director), Ian Goshko (Members and Volunteers Director), Saro Mugnaini (Funding Director)

Associates:

Anthony Young, David Libter, Erika Felton, Jess Liley, Michael Rolik, Michelle Mutchnik, Mike Whalley, Mike Worsley, Sujay Abhilash, Ted Rose

Queer Screen would like to thank:

All of our sponsors, media partners, community partners, venue partners, sales agents & distributors, filmmakers, suppliers, volunteers, members, panellists, Pitch Off finalists and jury, audience and advertisers. Adrian Konarski, Allens Linklaters, Annika Stagg, Barbarella Karpinski, Berenger Playford, Bradley Clark, Brave Agency, Cassy Best, Dan Graham, Dov Kornits, Herbert Smith Freehills, Kristie McCarthy, Kyle Goldfinch, Lawrence Gibbons, Lizzie Cooper, Mel Rumble, Michael Sabater, Prakash Prabhakaran, Q Programmers, Reg Domingo, Rob Raulings, Sharon Hickey, Silke K Bader and the teams at JORR and Silver Trak Digital.

Ticketing & Venue Information

Festival Tickets (Film Only)

- \$22 Full Price
- \$19 Concession
- \$18 Queer Screen Member
- \$10 Youth*

Opening Night Film + Party:

- \$40 Full Price
- \$37 Concession
- \$36 Queer Screen Member

Egghead & Twinkie (Wear It Purple Event)

- \$10 Tix
- Free for Youth (Under 26)

On Demand

- \$12 Full Price
- \$10 Queer Screen Member
- \$18 Full Price Household Tix
- \$15 Member Household Tix

Festival Passes

	Full	Member
Flexi 5 (Cinema + On Demand)	\$95	\$75
On Demand 3	\$33	\$27
On Demand All In	\$60	\$52

*\$10 Youth Tickets (15-25 years old)

Available on the door for any non sold out session.

Blue Mountains Tickets

- \$15 Full Price
- \$13 Concession
- \$12 Queer Screen Member

Become a Member

Queer Screen members save money on tickets and gain priority entry to our festival screenings. Go to queerscreen.org.au/membership for more information.

How to Book

Visit queerscreen.org.au to book tickets or download the Queer Screen app in the Google Play or App Store. Phone (02) 9280 1533 for telephone bookings between 11am and 5pm weekdays. **Please note:** no in person bookings are available at the Queer Screen office. If not sold out, tickets will be available at the venue from 1 hour before the film's start time.

Venues

Event Cinemas George Street

505 - 525 George Street,
Sydney, NSW, 2000

Mount Vic Flicks

2A Harley Ave
Mount Victoria, NSW, 2786

Terms and Conditions

Booking fees apply for all transactions. Classification - Please check the classification of the screenings you are attending. Nobody under the age of 18 will be allowed into 18+ sessions.

Accessibility

All cinema venues are accessible for a person using a wheelchair, and Companion Cards are accepted. Please email access@queerscreen.org.au to arrange.

For full Ticketing & Access info visit queerscreen.org.au