

MEDIA RELEASE

Mardi Gras Film Festival Coming to Cremorne!

Screening at the Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace 21 & 28 February 2016

22 January 2016: The Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace will host two of the top films of the 23rd Mardi Gras Film Festival presented by Queer Screen in February. Tickets are now on sale at queerscreen.org.au and <http://www.orpheum.com.au> or through the Mardi Gras Film Festival app.

Sure to be an audience favourite, Dame Maggie Smith and Alan Bennett give stellar performances in **THE LADY IN THE VAN**, fresh from the Toronto Film Festival. This is a quirky, true story about a homeless elderly woman called Mary Shepard who moved her battered van into Bennett's driveway and refused to leave. Screening Sunday 21 February at 6.30pm. Book [here](#).

THE GIRL KING tells the story of the real life Queen Kristina of Sweden a brilliant 17th century monarch who fought the conservative forces of her court to modernize Sweden. Shocking the court with her refusal to marry, Kristina fell for her lady-in-waiting and names her as the Queen's bed companion. This is the first film to delve deeper into the Queen's sexuality and won Best Actress award at the Montréal World Film Festival. Screening Sunday 28 February at 6.30pm. Book [here](#).

"We are delighted to screen some of our best Festival films at the Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace for the first time", explains Festival Director Paul Struthers. "We love this beautiful movie theatre and think it is the perfect setting for these gorgeous movies."

Paul Dravet GM of the Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace added "I'm very excited about this new relationship. We have had phenomenal response to our seasons with Sydney Film festival, the French Film Festival and our Classic Film Retro Festivals so yet another Orpheum door opens for the North Shore for special cinema events!"

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