

MEDIA RELEASE

Queer Screen's Mardi Gras Film Festival is Super Host in 2016!

10 international guests at events across the festival

18 February 2016: Solidifying its place as the premiere LGBTIQ film festival in Australia and indeed Asia Pacific, Queer Screen's Mardi Gras Film Festival will host 10 international guests over the next two weeks presenting their films, discussing their work and hosting masterclasses (supported by Screen NSW) with local talent. Tickets to the events with the international guests are now on sale through the Mardi Gras Film Festival app and at queerscreen.org.au. The guests include:

Nneka Onuorah - director, *The Same Difference* (USA) who is showcasing her documentary on the black, lesbian and bisexual community on Friday 19 Feb at 9pm, and also presenting a masterclass on production. Tickets available [here](#).

Claudia Lorenz - director, *What's Between Us* (Switzerland) will present her feature directorial debut on Monday 22 February at 7pm as well as hosting a free screening on Tuesday 23 February at 11am at Event Cinemas supported by the Consulate General of Switzerland and City of Sydney. Tickets available [here](#).

Marçal Forés - director, *Everlasting Love* (Spain) screens his winner of the International Dramatic Feature Award at Outfest and Best Feature Film of Queer Lisboa, supported by Acción Cultural Española (AC/E) and Sydney Underground Film Festival, on Saturday 20 February at 9.30pm. Tickets available [here](#).

Christina Zeidler - director, producer, screenwriter, *Portrait of a Serial Monogamist*, (Canada) introduces one of the most talked-about queer films of 2015 supported by SGLBA - *Lemons with a Twist* on Sunday 21 February at 6pm. Tickets available [here](#).

Kostja Ullmann and Marco Kreuzpaintner – the actor and director of *Coming In* and also *Summer Storm* (Germany) will present their comedy on Friday 26 February at 7pm, and *Summer Storm* and on Saturday 27 February at 4:30pm presented with The Bookshop Darlinghurst Tickets available [here](#).

Andrew Steggall - director, screenwriter, *Departure* (UK) will present his first feature in association with the British Council and Sydney Film Festival on Sunday 28 February at 8pm. Tickets available [here](#).

Chowee Leow – co- producer and Ray Yeung – director and screenwriter of *Front Cover* (Hong Kong) will present their feature on Sunday 27 February at 9.30pm and also discuss current trends in LGBTIQ cinema with other visiting filmmakers at the event Industry Forum - Trends in LGBTIQ Cinema. Tickets available [here](#).

Andrew Martin – the actor of *Fire Song* and a First Nation person from Ontario (Canada) will present the thoughtful and moving Canadian feature, on Wednesday 2 March at 6.30pm in association with the Consulate General of Canada Sydney and the ACON Aboriginal Project. Tickets available [here](#).

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“We are absolutely thrilled to host 10 international guests this year,” explains Festival Director Paul Struthers. “Not only is it difficult for queer and community based festivals to have the resources to attract international guests, it’s also a big ask for people to travel all the way to Australia so we are very grateful to our guests and also see it as the high regard in which Queer Screen’s Mardi Gras Film Festival is held across the world”.

The festival runs from 18 February to 3 March and tickets are on sale including flexi passes to 5 or 10 films. Please visit queerscreen.org.au or the Mardi Gras Film Festival app to book or call (02) 9332 4938 to become a Queer Screen member for discounted tickets and priority entry.

-ENDS-

Note to Editors:

- International guests are available for interview
- Screeners of most films are available for review and imagery is available for publication

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