



13TH MARDI GRAS FILM FESTIVAL

FEBRUARY 16/MARCH 2 2006

Principle Annual Partner



Annual Partners



Festival Partners



Venue Partners



Media Partners



My Queer Career Partners



Corporate Members



Queer Screen would like to thank the generous support of



queer screen

OUR VISION

Queer Screen is a community, cultural, nonprofit organisation whose main aim is to celebrate and promote Australian and international queer screen culture in all its diversity and richness.

To achieve this aim, Queer Screen produces an annual program highlighted by three main events.

- ☐ Mardi Gras Film Festival – the biggest event on Queer Screen's calendar.
- ☐ My Queer Career – the Australian and New Zealand queer shorts competition held during the Mardi Gras Film Festival, which then tours nationally and internationally.
- ☐ queerDOC – the international documentary film festival presented in September.

Queer Screen is run for the benefit of the members and the wider queer community. The organisation is overseen by a volunteer board of directors, which is elected annually by the membership.

The office is staffed by the executive producer, company administrator, and two festival programmers who, with the assistance of other part-time staff, bring the film festival to you. Even with these paid employees, we would be unable to stage our major events each year without the unpaid work of our board members and all our volunteers.

The annual Mardi Gras Film Festival is the largest lesbian and gay film festival in Australia and one of the top five in the world. The Festival has a growing reputation as an international market and showcase for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender screen culture.

MEMBERSHIP

Queer Screen encourages people with an interest in queer films and filmmaking to become involved in the organisation.

Join our events email list, become a volunteer, or attend events throughout the year. The best way to be part of the Queer Screen magic is to become a member!

Membership is a wonderful way to show your support and stay up to date with queer screen culture. You will also enjoy a range of benefits such as:

- ☐ priority seating – members enter before general public at the Mardi Gras Film Festival
- ☐ generous discounts to all Queer Screen events, and exclusive access to 10 Film Multi-Pass bookings
- ☐ invitations and discounts to Queer Screen previews, events, updates and offers
- ☐ a good feeling – you get to support a queer cultural organisation dedicated to presenting the diversity of queer experience and supporting queer filmmakers and producers.

Annual membership is easy – phone the Queer Screen office on **02 9332 4938**, check out our website:

www.queerscreen.com.au.

MEMBERS 2006

\$1000 Corporate Member: Hallgath Phillips (Glenn Phillips), Sun Microsystems (Gerald Bartlett), Alex Galeazzi

\$500 Deluxe Member: Paul Van Reyk, Denis J McIvor, Tony Mansfield, Bernard Fitzgerald, Geoff Annabel, Sebastian Rice, Ross Appleton

\$140 Premium Members: Robert Lincoln, Victoria Treole, Jenny Mann, Catherine Jackson, Richard Buckdale, Ray Wilson, James Kelly, Braith Bamkin, Khanh Beu Phuong, Ian Farrar, Gary Rodgers, Brad Wright, Adam Holden, Paul Garde, Steve Kaminski, Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco, Rory Gregg, Mat Anderson, Grant La Delle, Terry O'Shea, Robert Lincoln, Oonagh O'Reilly, Amy Wooding, Cassandra Dearing

CHECK

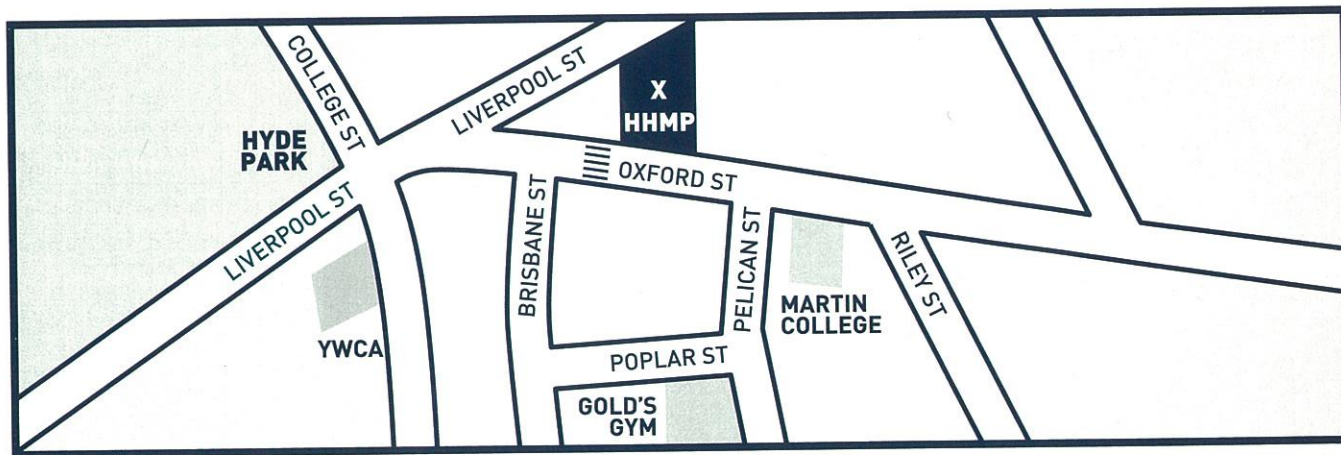


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Email info@holdsworthhouse.com.au

Byron Bay 6680 7211

37 Fletcher Street, Byron Bay
Email byron@holdsworthhouse.com.au

VENUES

State Theatre

49 Market St. Sydney

box office hours: 9am-5pm Mon-Fri

access: wheelchair access provided

Palace Academy Twin

3a Oxford St. Paddington

box office hours: 12pm-9pm daily

access: wheelchair access not provided

Dendy Newtown

261 King St, Newtown

box office hours: 11am-9pm daily

access: wheelchair access provided

Randwick Ritz

39-47 St Pauls St. Randwick

box office hours: 10am-10pm daily

access: wheelchair access provided

Online, phone and fax orders must be made at least 24 hours prior to the first session you wish to attend. If your first session is on a weekend, your tickets must be ordered by 10am on Friday.

Conditions of purchase: Booking fee for all session tickets (except Opening Night) and passes purchased via internet, mail, phone or fax is \$1.50 per transaction (including GST). No booking fees apply to tickets

TICKETS

NB: Customs and Film Classification conditions prohibit the admittance of people under the age of 18 to all festival sessions, except our youth sessions, where persons 15 years and over will be admitted (with identification).

OPENING NIGHT

State Theatre Film & Party

(very limited) **\$38.00**

Film Only **\$22.00**

Available only at

State Theatre Box Office,

49 Market Street, Sydney

Mon to Fri 9am-5pm

Ticketek: Ph: 02 9266 4800,

www.ticketek.com or any Ticketek

outlet. Transaction fees may apply.

purchased directly from the box office of Festival Venues (excluding State Theatre). Tickets purchased more than a week before the first session will be mailed out.

Tickets purchased less than a week before the first session will be held for collection at the relevant cinema. Pre-purchased tickets should be collected no later than 30 minutes prior to the session – photo identification may be requested. Please direct all telephone enquiries

SINGLE TICKETS

Standard **\$15.50**

Concession **\$12.50**

New Mardi Gras Member **\$14.50**

Queer Screen Member **\$12.50**

MULTI-FILM PASSES

[Not valid for Opening Night]

5 Ticket pack – full price **\$72.50**

5 Ticket pack – QS Members **\$57.50**

10 Ticket Pack – QS Members **\$100**

MCA Ticketing

Ph: 1300 306 776

10am to 6pm Mon to Fri, 10am to 2pm Sat

Fax: 02 9331 8615

Book online: www.queerscreen.com.au

regarding phone, fax and internet ticketing to MCA Ticketing only. Cinema venues do not have access to MCA. Tickets can be bought directly from the cinemas.

Valid Festival concessions: Full-time students, pensioners, NSW Seniors 60+, Healthcare cardholders, Queer Screen members, Palace Movie Club and AFI members. One concession ticket per cardholder will apply on presentation of a valid card.

CREDITS

The 2006 Mardi Gras Film Festival is produced and presented by Queer Screen Ltd
11/94 Oxford Street Darlinghurst, NSW 2010
Mailing Address: PO Box 1081 Darlinghurst, NSW 1300
Tel: +61 2 9332 4938, Fax: +61 2 9331 2988
Email: info@queerscreen.com.au
Web: www.queerscreen.com.au

Board of Directors: Robert Judd (President), Su Goldfish (Vice president), Jane Becker (Secretary), Lee Barrett (Treasurer), Robbie Baldwin, Lisa George, Sebastian Rice, Jeff Rosenthal, Victoria Treole, Louise Wadley, Simon Wellington

Management: Executive Producer – Panos Couros, Company Administrator – Lex Lindsay, Programmer – David Pearce, Programmer – Megan Carriy

Festival Staff: Venue Operations Manager – Anthony Yeo, Advertising Sales Manager – Luke Cutler, Advertising Sales – Natalie Itzkovic, Print Freight – Lex Lindsay, Programmer's Assistant – Marie Mattheson, queer_pixels curator – Debs McCann, Queer Stillers curator – Robert McGrath Photographic Exhibitors

Cover: Concept – John Martin & Panos Couros, Photographer – Waded, Make Up – Velalieu, Production – Lisa George, Model – Lex Lindsay, Image Manipulation: John Martin

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Queer Screen Accounts: Wilburforce Performing Arts Business Solutions – Will Sheehan

Festival Guide Editor: Ruth Pollard

Opening Night Director: Alex Galeazzi

Festival Trailer Production:

Ryan Watson & Panos Couros

Website Development: Dinah Randall

Queer Screen Volunteers: Queer Screen

acknowledges and thanks our magnificent volunteers. At all Queer Screen events, the people who tear your ticket, show you to your seat and look after you at the cinema are Queer Screen Volunteers. Volunteers spend valuable time assisting our office staff and managing events. The Mardi Gras Film Festival would not be possible without the generous efforts of our dedicated volunteer crew. So show them a smile when attending festival events.

Thankyou: Jane Powell Wine Works International; Paul Van Reyk, Butch Kuddeh Catering; Stephen Craddock and Brian Reid, Slide Bar; UNSW School of Media Film and Theatre; Nicolas Whatson, Palace Cinemas; Egidio Rodrigues, Dendy Newtown; Mark Harris, State Theatre; John Bortolin, Greater Union; Josh McAller, Grosvenor (Taxi) Club; Kylee Kay, Driveaway Holidays; Andrew Bullen, Marcus O'Donnell, Tim Ball, Luke Engerer and Gary Stocks at the Sydney Star Observer; Danielle Harvey, New Mardi Gras; Karen Peaston, MCA – Tix; Melissa Taylor, Petrol Records; Troy Lum & Sandie Donn, Hopscotch Films; Simone Ubaldi, Force Entertainment; Ellen Finney, BVt; Angus Clunies-Ross, SPE; Andrew Flynn, Disney; John Davies, Arkles Entertainment; Dan Castle, Tres Hermana Productions; Jason Hinks, Rialto Entertainment; Josh Pomeranz, Spectrum Films; Denise Tang, Hong Kong Gay & Lesbian Film Festival; Lisa Daniel, Melbourne Queer Film Festival; Nikki Sullivan, Macquarie University; Debs McCann; Rolmar Baldonado, AFTRS; Lien Quach, SBS; Deb Spinokio, Jim Stamatakis; Rochelle Oshlack, Cecilia Ritchie; George Paramanathan; the incredible Ms. Clare Sawyer; David Williams, Marie Mattheson, and all the Queer Screen volunteers, a thousand thank yous to you.

CALENDAR

	State 8pm	Academy 2:30pm	Academy 3pm	Academy 4:45pm	Academy 5:20pm	Academy 7pm	Academy 7:30pm	Academy 9:10pm	Academy 9:40pm	Dendy 7pm	Dendy 9pm	Ritz 8:30pm
FEB 16	Opening Night											
FEB 17						Blue Gate Crossing	Trans America	Fun In Girls Shorts	Balls			
FEB 18		Mixed Signals	Beautiful Boxer	When Beckham Met Owen	Hate Crime	Queer Adventures In Animation	Logger Heads	The Journey	Queens			
FEB 19		Family Briefs	Adam & Steve	2 Girls	Fun In Boys Shorts	Bad Girls Behind Bars	Love To Hide	Make A Wish	My Hustler			
FEB 20						Like A Brother	When I'm 64	Eat My Shorts	Good Boys	Unveiled	My Mother Likes Women	
FEB 21						Gasoline	Kinky Boots	Blood, Sweat And Glitter	Yaji & Kita	The Journey	Brother To Brother	
FEB 22						Transparent	Third Man Out	Mrs Stevens Hears The Mermaids	3 Dancing Slaves		Hellbent	
FEB 23						Take A Deep Breath	Adam & Steve	Lower Other	Zona Rosa			
FEB 24						Women In Love	Young And Lovely	Unveiled	My Brother Nikhil			
FEB 25	Herbie: Fully Loaded		Balls	Three Needles	Celluloid Salon	Gypo	50 Ways	My Mother Likes Women	Rent			
FEB 26	Innocent	Education Of Shelby Knox		Both	Winning Gay Shorts	Producing Adults	Go West	Getting The Girls Shorts	Happy Endings			
FEB 27							Long Term Shorts		Say Uncle	50 Ways	Feline Masquerade	
FEB 28							Logger Heads		Eighteen	The Masseuse	Left Lane	
MAR 1							Screaming Queens		Cycles Of Porn		Scab	
MAR 2												Closing Night Cote D'Azur

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

**President Robert Judd
Vice-President Su Goldfish**

What makes a film queer? Is it the audience, the jokes, the butchness, the sweetness, the campness, the filmmakers, the beauty, the diversity of our sexualities? Is it that we know where to find a queer film festival, who to go with, that it catches our attention? That even though we are positioned somewhere outside of the norm, the respectable or the acceptable, that we demand attention, that we won't be gagged?

The question of what is queer is asked and answered over and over again in a film festival such as this one. These are our stories. In our film festival we get to make it up, make out, make something of ourselves, make trouble, speak up, stand up to the god literalists and the hate mongers. This is a special space in which to find critical connections and meaning.

We invite you to be open to the diversity and complexity of the queer stories that come to us from around the world. We're delighted with this year's selection of films and our re-born glossy guide to the festival.

This queer film festival is made with the dedication of resourceful film-makers, curated by our committed and now seriously square-eyed programmers, crafted by our executive producer and the festival production team and supported by the efforts of many volunteers.

See you in the cinema.

Rob and Su

FROM THE PROGRAMMERS

Megan Carrigy + David Pearce

Last year we went to the San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival to shop for films for this festival. We returned with the very best of queer cinema from around the world, selecting films that won audience and jury prizes from a range of international festivals including Berlin, Brazil, Paris, London, Turin, South Africa and Toronto.

The trip was useful in many ways. It not only gave us the opportunity to see a very large number of queer films, but, more importantly, it allowed us to experience them in a cinema with an audience.

We gained incredible insight into how audiences reacted to each film, helping us to select both the most popular and the most challenging. There is nothing like sitting in an audience where everybody gets the joke a general audience would probably miss. It also reinforced our belief that you cannot please everybody all of the time.

We think that you will love the films that we have selected for this festival. It is one of our best yet in terms of the quality and the diversity of subject matter, including some hilarious twists on old genres. From the All-American Western to live action Anime.

Enjoy the festival!

David and Megan

QUEER_PIXELS

queer_pixels is back in 2006. In support of artists, innovators and queer storytellers working with digital media technology, queer_pixels will showcase works from new and established digital artists and producers. The 30-60 second animated works are produced in Flash, After Effects and Director software, and will open sessions throughout the festival. queer_pixels is curated by Debs McCann and this year's contributions include:

Beware of the God The 30-second animation *Beware of the God* is part of a cross-media project warning of the increasing influence of religious literalists in the public sphere; extended and documented at: www.bewareofthegod.com

Artist: Deborah Kelly
Animation: Sumagan Sivanesan
Score: Ewan Proctor

THE SCREEN THE EYE Everyone's life is now digitally mediated and if the exterior is not your place then the interior could become it.
Artist: David Gacs

PLAYGIRLS I & II Playgirls I & II deconstructs the rules of a board game to create the surreal atmosphere that permeates this animation.

Artist: Irene Wittusen

**For more on queer_pixels visit
www.queerscreen.com.au**

QUEERSTILLS 06

Slide Show: Evenings from 7.30pm-5.30am, 72 Oxford St, Darlinghurst (best viewed from outside Starbucks on the opposite side of Oxford St). Thursday February 9 to Sunday March 12.

Awards ceremony: During Celluloid Salon, Academy Twin, Oxford St, Sunday February 25, 5.20pm

The art of stills photography is celebrated in QueerStills 06 a photographic competition of images taken during the production of films entered into this year's My Queer Career. QueerStills is produced for Queer Screen by Robert McGrath Photographic Exhibitors. Last year, this internationally juried competition proved to be a stimulating source of innovative and provocative queer imagery.

See this year's short listed images in a dynamic slide show projected onto an Oxford St shopfront. The awards for QueerStills 06 will be announced during a special ceremony held as part of the Celluloid Salon session of the Festival.



Left To Right: President Robert Judd + Vice-president Su Goldfish, Programmers David Pearce And Megan Carrigy, Beware Of The God, The Screen The Eye

16TH THURSDAY FEBRUARY OPENING NIGHT

MY QUEER CAREER

8pm State Theatre

My Queer Career is a prestigious short film competition for Australian and New Zealand filmmakers. This competition has helped launch the careers of many queer filmmakers, and has international status. A jury of industry professionals has independently selected 11 films for competition after viewing and assessing all 35 entries. They have chosen films dealing with challenging and engaging issues and themes that portray the increasing sophistication of our queer voices. For the first time, the 'best of the rest' have also been chosen by the judges to be screened in a curated *Celluloid Salon* at the Palace Academy Twin at 5.20pm on Sunday February 25.

The Judges

Miranda Dear Executive Producer, Drama, ABC Television. Has worked as Senior Film Buyer at UK TV station Channel 4; Production and Acquisition Exec for Film Four; Commissioning Editor Drama at SBS Independent, and has recently moved to the ABC as Executive Producer Drama.

Adam Elliot Academy Award winning director, and international film festival juror. Adam is a past My Queer Career finalist and winner.

Mark Gooder Head of Icon Productions. Was responsible for the acquisition and release of over 200 feature titles through his roles as General Manager of Essential Films (NZ) and Head of Film at Becker Entertainment (REP & Dendy Films).

The prizes

Best Film Award \$2,500 provided by the Stephen Cummins Bequest, in memory of the gifted queer Australian filmmaker who died from an AIDS-related condition in 1994

Cinematography Award Panavision equipment hire to the value of \$5,000

Screenplay Award: 12 month subscription to Inside Film Magazine

Direction Award a Motorola Pink RAZR V3 phone

Editing Award access to editing and facilities at Spectrum Films valued at approx \$2,500

Sound Award 10 hours studio time at Soundfirm facilities in Sydney or Melbourne.

Development Award facilities, equipment hire or training from Screen Development Australia to the value of \$500

SBS TV Award An offer to purchase screening rights from SBS Television. (Shorts On Screen, Saturday nights)

Audience Choice Award

The My Queer Career Audience Choice Award will be presented before this closing night film.

2006 FINALISTS

And Everything Nice

Australia, 2005, 7 mins, video, Directed by Craig Boreham/Peta Jane Lenehan. The curiosity of a schoolgirl leads her to skip a day at school to observe a classmate as she wanders through the city.

One End Stands

Australia, 2005, 11 mins, video, Directed by Maiara R Skarheim. Follow this young lesbian's scenic tour of frustration and desire as she dives into the trials and tribulation of getting a date, finding love ... or just having good sex!

Frocks Off – Jamel

Australia, 2005, 5 mins, video, Directed by Rosetta Cook. Jamel's mother's engagement dress marks the start of a long and lonely journey to becoming a woman

Mona Lisa

Australia, 2004, 14 mins, 35mm, Directed by Sotiris Dounoukos. Mona Lisa examines the psychological tug of war that ensues in a volatile family ritual as mother and son struggle with the intensity and intimacy of their co-dependent lives.

'Queens'land

Australia, 2005, 6 mins, video, Directed by Matthias Cerven. 'Queens'land', where blokes are blokes and the tradesman rules supreme!

Straightville

Australia, 2005, 3 mins, video, Directed by Maiara R Skarheim. An exploration of the alternate realities in which we find ourselves in daily life. *Straightville* is the parody of our innermost fears becoming personified.

Teen Christian Beach Party

Australia, 2004, 4 mins, video, Directed by Richard Vette. In these times of great immorality and debauchery, Layman John and his friends seek to educate the teenage masses.

The Bridge

Australia, 2005, 10 mins, video, Directed by George Barbakadze. A gay couple from Georgia (former USSR) escape to Australia to build a new life in Sydney but only one of them gets a visa to stay in Australia.

Time Will Tell

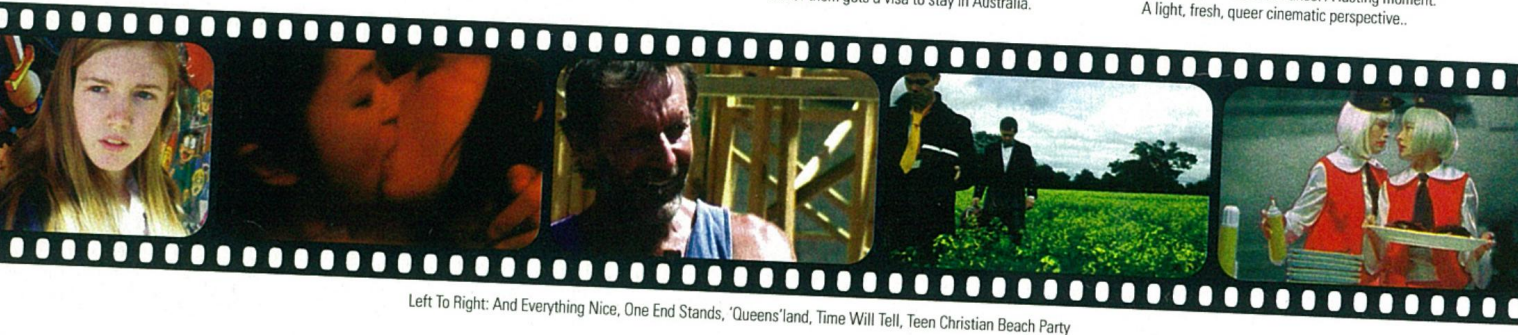
Australia, 2005, 7 mins, video, Directed by Kelly West. What do you talk about when you are not ready to say goodbye? – *Daylight savings*

Two Nights

Australia, 2005, 11 mins, 16mm, Directed by Rolmar Baldonado. Over two nights a young Chinese immigrant has two sexual encounters and is forced to choose between the one he wants and the one who wants him.

Untitled Film Stills

Australia, 2005, 5 mins, video, Directed by Sam Icklow. A fleeting, celluloid romance. A lasting moment. A light, fresh, queer cinematic perspective.



Left To Right: And Everything Nice, One End Stands, 'Queens'land, Time Will Tell, Teen Christian Beach Party

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Left To Right: And Everything Nice, One End Stands, 'Queens'land, Time Will Tell, Teen Christian Beach Party

17TH FRIDAY FEBRUARY

BLUE GATE CROSSING

7pm Academy Twin

Taiwan/France, 2002, 85 mins, 35mm
Directed by Yee Chih-Yen
Chinese with English Subtitles

*Persons 15 years and over
admitted to this session*

Meng Kerou, a seemingly average Taiwanese high school student, has been carrying a secret for too many years. When her best-friend Lin Yuezhn becomes obsessed with a boy in the swim team, called Zhang Shihao, she asks Meng Kerou to play intermediary. Lines of communication become crossed when Shihao thinks Kerou is the one with the crush on him and pursues her instead. The problem is, Kerou isn't just friends with Yuezhn, she is in love with her. Writer-director Yee Chih-Yen's second film, *Blue Gate Crossing*, is choreographed with effortless grace. Events unfold in generous long takes and characters reveal themselves through myriad layers of emotions. Cinematographer Hsiang Chienn captures all this beautifully within the vivid landscape of urban Taipei.

queer_pixels: **PLAYGIRLS I**

TRANSAMERICA

7.30pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 103 mins, 35mm
Directed by Duncan Tucker
Felicity Huffman, Kevin Zegers,
Elizabeth Pena
www.transamerica-movie.com

Bree (Felicity Huffman) is preparing for gender reassignment surgery to complete her change from a man to a woman. Her psychiatrist puts one hurdle in her way. She must first find her son, Toby, who she fathered during a long-forgotten heterosexual encounter in New York. Bree goes to NY where she finds Toby (Kevin Zegers), but does not reveal her secret to him. Toby is working as a hustler and decides to accompany Bree on her trip back to Los Angeles. *Transamerica* is funny, touching and incredibly human. Felicity Huffman has been mentioned as a strong contender for an Academy Award for this amazing performance. It is a far cry from her role on *Desperate Housewives*.

FUN IN GIRLS' SHORTS

9.10pm Academy Twin

Hilarious and bizarre as always, this year Fun in Girls' Shorts brings you the first ever lesbian transgender Hungarian paprika western, *Pusztá Cowboy*, new films from Guinevere Turner (*The L Word*, *Go Fish*) and Jennie Livingstone (*Paris is Burning*), plus the winner of the prestigious Teddy for Best Short at the Berlin Film Festival. A frustrated poet gets all tied up with dozens of leather clad Busby Berkeley dancers in *Who's the Top?*. *Hi Maya* sees two old ladies mischievously rekindle an old flame under the rollers at the hairdresser, while a bunch of rowdy roller derby racers reminisce about past thrills in *High Heels on Wheels*. The alien dildo *Harigata* has men screaming in horror and women screaming in ecstasy. Meanwhile, Guinevere Turner and her merry friends discover what its like to own their own non-detachable Harigata for a day in *Hung*.
HARIGATA: THE ALIEN DILDO THAT TURNED WOMEN INTO SEX HUNGRY LESBOS, US, 2003, 10 mins. Directed by Suz Burgess. HIGH HEELS ON WHEELS, US, 2005, 11 mins. Directed by Leslie Sloan & Donna Cassidy. HI MAYA, Switzerland, 2004, 12 mins. Directed by Claudia Lorenz. HUNG, US, 2005, 13 mins. Directed by Guinevere Turner. PUSZTA COWBOY, Hungary, 2004, 9 mins. Directed by Katrin Kremmler. WHO'S THE TOP? US, 2005, 22 mins. Directed by Jennie Livingstone.

BALLS (GUYS & BALLS OR MANNER WIE WIR)

9.40pm Academy Twin

Germany, 2004, 106 mins, video
Directed by Sherry Horman
German with English subtitles
www.guysandballs-themovie.com

Ecki (Maximilian Bruckner) is a soccer fanatic. He is the goalie for his hometown team. A missed block in a major game puts him on the outer with his team and when he is caught kissing another guy, it is two strikes and you are out. Ecki forms an all-gay soccer team to take to his hometown for a grudge match against his homophobic mates, *Balls* has screened across the world winning several "best gay film" awards. It has everything going for it, good looking guys, humour, romance, sports action and a possible happy ending.

queer_pixels: **BEWARE OF THE GOD**



Left To Right: Blue Gate Crossing, Transamerica, Fun In Girls' Shorts, Hi Maya, Balls (Guys & Balls Or Manner Wie Wir)

18TH SATURDAY FEBRUARY

MIXED SIGNALS

2.30pm Academy Twin

Persons 15 years and over admitted to this session.

Mixed signals and confusion abound when an emerging but still clunky gaydar is tested by a schoolgirl in *Can You Take It?*. *Tilted* deconstructs those telltale signs of queerness that materialise when parents think they know everything. A not so run-of-the-mill palliative care nurse, Janet, bursts into the last days of an old woman's life and recreates from *Kathleen's Closet* a memory of a time when she loved well. A young girl feels *Invisible* at school as she roams the playground. *Sushi* draws out a culinary sexual awakening. *Lucie & Vera* brings two young German girls in love through the highs and lows of running away from home. *A Girl Named Kai* is a beautiful, raw autobiography.

CAN YOU TAKE IT? UK, 2005, 20 mins. Directed by Justine Morris. A GIRL NAMED KAI, Canada, 2004, 10 mins. Directed by Kai Ling Xue. INVISIBLE, Australia 2005, 4 mins. Directed by Cecilia Yu & Samantha Keen. KATHLEEN'S CLOSET, Canada, 2004, 13 mins. Directed by Sheila Jordan. LUCIE & VERA, Germany, 2004, 27 mins. Directed by Julia von Heinz. SUSHI US, 2004, 9 mins. Directed by Rebecca Heller. TILTED, Canada, 2004, 5 mins. Directed by Kai Ling Xue. TRANSIT, US, 2003, 4 mins. Directed by Kerry Weldon.

BEAUTIFUL BOXER

3.00pm Academy Twin

Thailand, 2004, 119 mins, video
Directed by Ekachai Uekrongtham

Based on the true story of Parinya Chareoenphol, a Muaythai boxer who underwent a sex change operation to become a woman. He uses his income from his boxing victories to save up for the operation.

WHEN BECKHAM MET OWEN

4.45pm Academy Twin

Hong Kong, 2004, 80 mins, video
Directed by Adam Wong
Cantonese with English subtitles

Persons 15 years and over admitted to this session

"A real treat for lovers of Chinese and East Asian film, first presented at the Tokyo International Film Festival last year. Quirky, delightful and endearing, the film revolves around the irrepressible love of football of two 13-year-old boys, David and Michael. The crazy heightened pace of youth is captured in a cute and comic whirlwind of effects out of which the emotional reality of the boys' world is created. All runs smoothly until Michael begins to sense that he is feeling something decidedly different for David that can't be expressed in the exchange of soccer cards. When

Beckham Met Owen is a wonderful and enlightening queer take on the ubiquitous paraphernalia of boyhood."
— London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

Winner of the Independent Spirit Award at the Hong Kong Asian Film Festival 2004

queer_pixels: PLAYGIRLS II

HATE CRIME

5.20pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 105 mins, video
Written and directed by Tommy Stovall
Starring Seth Peterson, Bruce Davison, Giancarlo Esposito, Cindy Pickett, Susan Blakely
www.hatecrimemovie.com

Robbie and Trey are a gay couple who suddenly encounter intolerance and hostility at the hands of their new neighbour, Chris Boyd, the son of a fundamentalist preacher. One evening Trey sets out on his nightly walk with their dog and never returns. Fingers are pointed and both Chris and Robbie become prime suspects.

QUEER ADVENTURES IN ANIMATION

7pm Academy Twin

Michaelangelo's David takes up some of those innocent looking online penis enlargement offers in *E-Spam-o Italian-o*. Freud the finger puppet saves his most specialised advice for *Sesame Street's* Ernie and Bert in *Sigmund Freud: Professional Psychoanalyst*. *Gay Men and Their Hair Loss* gets very *Being John Malkovich* when the filmmaker starts seeing himself everywhere. A woman just can't seem to get her girlfriend off the ceiling in *Falling*. It has been another adventurous year for queer animators and the results range from the breathtakingly exquisite to the downright bizarre.

BIKINI, Sweden, 2004, 7 mins. Directed by Lasse Persson. BUTLER, Sweden, 2004, 9 mins. Directed by Erik Rosenlund. DANCE GIRLS, Australia, 2004, 3 mins. Directed by Jack Feldstein. LA DIFFERENCE, Switzerland, 1999, 9 mins. Directed by Rita Kung. DREAMING IS FOR MOONRISE, Taiwan, 2004, 7 mins. Directed by Pei Ying Lee. E-SPAM-O ITALIAN-O, US, 2004, 6 mins. Directed by Bob Matar. FALLING, Finland & Wales, 2004, 4 mins. Directed by Petra Rossi. FISH KISS, US, 2004, 2 mins. Directed by Morgan Jacobsen. GAY MEN AND THEIR HAIR LOSS, Canada, 2004, 4 mins. Directed by Roy Mitchell. JOHN AND MICHAEL, Canada, 2004, 10 mins. Directed by Shira Avni. OOLA OOP L'EAU DE OHH! US, 2005, 5 mins. Directed by Carole-Shelly Abrams. SIGMUND FREUD: PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOANALYST, US, 2005, 7 mins. Directed by Kami Chisholm & Jennifer Gilomen. SING SING SING, Germany, 2002, 12 mins. Directed by Roswith Menzel. SOLO, Canada, 2005, 5 mins. Directed by Martha Newbigging. WILLINGDON DREAMS, US, 2005, 3 mins. Directed by Donna Lee. WITH WHAT SHALL I WASH? Spain, 2003, 11 mins. Directed by Maria Trenor.



Left To Right: A Girl Named Kai, Beautiful Boxer, When Beckham Met Owen, Hate Crime, Sigmund Freud: Professional Psychoanalyst

LOGGERHEADS

7.30pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 101 mins, 35mm
Directed by Tim Kirkman
www.loggerheadsmovie.com

The endangered loggerhead turtle lays its eggs in North Carolina, the setting for this beautiful and unsettling drama. *Loggerheads* follows four main characters, each at an emotional crossroads in their life, over one year, in three different locations. Deftly weaving three stories told on Mother's Day, the film is a wonderful cinematic tapestry of love, loss and longing. Mark (the stunning and hunky Kip Pardue) is a drifter who comes to the town to help save the loggerhead turtles. He meets up with a sexy motel owner. Meanwhile Grace (Bonnie Hunt) is searching for the son she gave up for adoption and Elizabeth (Tess Harper) is trying to stand up to her stern preacher husband. *Loggerheads* had a well-deserved standing ovation at its San Francisco International LGBT Festival Film premiere.

queer_pixels: THE SCREEN THE EYE

THE JOURNEY (SANCHARRAM)

9.10pm Academy Twin

India, 2004, 107 mins, 35mm
Directed by Ligy J. Pullappally
Malayalam with English Subtitles
Set in lush, rural Kerala, Ligy J. Pullappally's debut feature film covers territory rarely visited by Malayalam filmmakers. *The Journey* begins with the childhood friendship between beautiful,

outgoing Delilah, and the sober, idealistic, and inwardly focused Kiran who moves in next door. Though their first stab at intimacy leaves Delilah shaken, the two embark on a romance that proves an evolution for both women. But when their romance is discovered, the scandal is explosive, sparking consequences both tragic and triumphant. This film about two young Indian women in love was made as a means of effecting greater social change in India.

Winner of the Chicago Award for Best Film, 40th Chicago International Film Festival

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD

QUEENS

9.40pm Academy Twin

Spain, 2005, 107 mins, 35mm
Directed by Manuel Gomez Pereira
Spanish with English subtitles
www.queens-themovie.com

Queens has a "clever and engaging plot which uses the celebration of the first gay wedding in Spain to tell the story of six gay men who are about to marry and their parents, especially their mothers". The film avoids clichés, portraying the gay sons as people from different social strata and conditions. Special mention to Gustavo Salmeron in a fine performance, however, the film belongs to the mothers. They are in fact the "queens" the title refers to. Pereira has assembled a bunch of Spain's greatest actresses: Carmen Maura, Marisa Paredes, Mercedes Sampietro and Veronica Forque." — IMDB.com

19TH SUNDAY FEBRUARY

FAMILY BRIEFS

2.30pm Academy Twin

The passionate and complex family lives of the GLBT community are shown in these short films. An inexperienced 50-year-old Finnish man answers an Internet ad and is confused by the person at the door in *Man Seeking Man*. A mother pays an unexpected visit to her son in the hilarious *La Fidanziata* just as he is about to spend a romantic evening with his lover. A young Kickapoo man learns about tolerance and the circle of life from his *Grandma & the Raven*. In *Mormor's Visit*, a grandmother coming from Sweden has a very different take on events. The difficult-to-change perceptions about homosexuality held by an immigrant family in Australia are skilfully illustrated in *The Prodigal Son*. A Chinese mother in Taiwan loves and supports her extremely tall and very black gay son, the result of an affair with an American soldier.

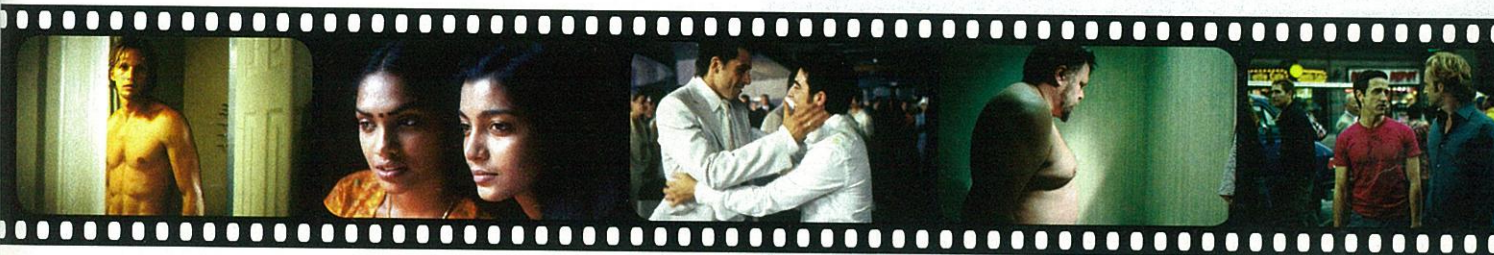
LA FIDANZATA, Switzerland, 2004, 11 mins. Directed by Petra Volpe. GRANDMA & THE RAVEN, US, 2005, 8 mins. Directed by J B Cisneros. HEY JIMMY, Taiwan, 2004, 16 mins. Directed by Ming-Chieh Sung. MAN SEEKING MAN, Finland, 2004, 12 mins. Directed by Matti Harju. MORMOR'S VISIT, US, 2005, 16 mins. Directed by Casper Andreas. THE PRODIGAL SON, Australia, 2005, 27 mins. Directed by Tony Radevsk

ADAM & STEVE

3.00pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 100 mins, video
Written and Directed by Craig Chester
Craig Chester, Malcolm Gets, Parker Posey, Chris Kattan

In 1987 a Goth boy meets a disco dancer at a nightclub. The unlikely pair hit it off and go home together, where the night turns into a total disaster. Fast-forward 15 years. Fashions and hairstyles have changed and the couple meet up again — totally unaware they were a one-night stand 15 years ago. Out gay actors Gets and Chester have a real screen chemistry and bring a lot of fun and emotion to their roles. The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Film festival compared this wacky and raunchy comedy to films such as *When Harry Met Sally* and *My Best Friend's Wedding*. Expect a gay time of hilarity and romance.



Left To Right: *Loggerheads*, *The Journey (Sancharram)*, *Queens*, *Man Seeking Man*, *Adam & Steve*

19TH SUNDAY FEBRUARY

2 GIRLS (IKI GENC KIZ)

4.45pm Academy Twin

Turkey, 2005, 107 mins, 35mm
Directed by Kutlag Ataman
Turkish with English Subtitles

This film explores the complex social fabric of life in Istanbul through an intense and troubled friendship between two marginalised teenage girls from differing backgrounds. The turbulent, headstrong Behiye runs away from her controlling older brother and family to live with Handan, an apparently ditzy blonde who has a love-hate relationship with her camp and melodramatic single mother. Gritty lensing and heavy close ups capture the raw energy of an obsessive friendship struggling on the edge of daunting new terrain.

FUN IN BOYS' SHORTS

5.20pm Academy Twin

Fun in Boys' Shorts lives up to its title with plenty of comedy, sex and nudity. Mother arrives at the wrong time in *Cairo Calling*. A male French hamster (*Copain de Paris*) looks for romance on the other side of the Atlantic. A high school senior

secretly lusts after a bad-boy classmate in *Dare*. The Internet proves an interesting search tool in *Guy 101*. A novice walks into a bar where most of the guys are *Just in Leather*. In *No Ordinary Joe* a teenage soccer player receives some unexpected inspiration. The title tells you everything there is to know about *Sissy Boy Slap Party*. *Taco Chick & Salsa Girl* battle Nazi Barbie and her white supremacist Ken when they plan to kidnap Salsa girl and rid LA of its Mexican population. An obsession with a fly blinds a man's *View*.

CAIRO CALLING, Canada, 2005, 9 mins. Directed by Joseph Antaki and Xiaodan He. COPAIN DE PARIS, US, 2005, 4 mins. Directed by Jacob Owens. DARE, US, 2005, 16 mins. Directed by Adam Salky. GUY, 101 UK, 2005, 9 mins. Directed by Ian Gouldstone. JUST FOR LEATHER, US, 2004, 5 mins. Directed by Lawrence Ferrara. NO ORDINARY JOE, UK, 2005, 13 mins. Directed by Jules Nurish. SISSY BOY SLAP PARTY, Canada, 2004, 4 mins. Directed by Guy Maddin. TACO CHICK AND SALSA GIRL, US, 2005, 15 mins. Directed by Kurt Koehler. VIEW, Australia, 2005, 6 mins. Directed by John Chatwin.

BAD GIRLS BEHIND BARS

7.00pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 82 mins, video
Directed by Sharon Zurek

Tongue firmly in both cheeks, this film throws good taste to the wind and invites the audience to boo the goodies and cheer the baddies. Weaving together clips from a '30s Barbara Stanwyck film, a Pam Grier

SM exploitation flick (complete with whip and thigh-high leather boots) and Anne Heche's mad lesbo villain vehicle, this campy compilation promises plenty of girl-on-girl action. Zurek invites the audience to survey four decades of *Sluts in the Slammer* movies. Come dressed for most sexy prison garb competition – dominatrix governess or "new fish", you decide.

queer_pixels: PLAYGIRLS I

A LOVE TO HIDE (UN AMOUR A TAIRE)

7.30pm Academy Twin

France, 2004, 103 mins,
Directed by Christian Faure
French with English subtitles

Jean and Philippe, two male lovers in occupied France in WWII, take in a childhood Jewish friend, Sarah, whose family has been killed by Hitler's police, and struggle to survive in an unforgiving society. Jean's brother arrives and tries to woo Sarah throwing the delicate balance of their lives into chaos.

MAKE A WISH

9.10pm Academy Twin

US, 2003, 96 mins, video
Directed by Sharon Ferranti

Make a Wish offers a creepy lesbian twist on the testosterone-driven slasher film genre. Susan gathers together an assortment of her ex-girlfriends for her

annual birthday camping trip. Chloe is mad because there is no vegan food, and Dawn is performing healing rituals that look a lot like witchcraft. As they set out hiking, fishing and frolicking, lesbians start to mysteriously disappear, turning this extended dyke hike into a bona fide fright fest. Set in a remote Texas wilderness park, this low-budget effort can hardly take itself too seriously with hilariously grisly death scenes and soap opera style dyke dramas.

MY HUSTLER SHORTS

9.30pm Academy Twin

A selection of sex for money films focusing on those who provide. A hustler discovers the key to a murder in small town New Zealand in *Boy*. In *Build*, a young man works to support his mother. A 20-year-old street hustler is supported by a 70-year-old artist who is going blind in *Gold*. *Licking Our Wounds* starts with a woman trying to pick up a gay hustler and turns into a touching act of friendship and love. A hustling couple in *My Hustler Boyfriend* demonstrate how much they love each other and their work. A '90s TV actor has fallen on hard times in *Room Service*. One of his fans hires him for the night.

BOY, New Zealand, 2004, 15 mins. Directed by Welby Ings; BUILD, Canada, 2004, 23 mins. Directed by Greg Atkins; GOLD, Canada, 2005, 16 mins. Directed by Armen Kazanian; LICKING OUR WOUNDS, US, 2005, 16 mins. Directed by Wendy Dallas; MY HUSTLER BOYFRIEND, US, 2004, 5 mins. Directed by Peter Pizzi ROOM SERVICE, US 2004, 20 mins. Directed by Daniel Reitz



Left To Right: Cairo Calling, Sissy Boy Slap Party, Bad Girls Behind Bars, A Love to Hide (Un Amour A Taire), Make A Wish

20TH MONDAY FEBRUARY

LIKE A BROTHER (COMME UN FRERE)

7.00pm Academy Twin

France, 2005, 55 mins
Directed by Bernard Alapetite
and Cyril Legann
French with English subtitles

A French gay teen leaves the safety of a small town and the unrequited love for his straight best friend for the big city and a new life. Contains hot sex scenes.

WITH: My Dear parents (Messenger Parents)

France 2005, 11mins, Video
Directed by Martin Amic

AND: Edward & Me
Australia 2005, 7mins, video
Directed by Stephen House

queer_pixels: THE SCREEN THE EYE

WHEN I'M 64

7.30pm Academy Twin

UK, 2004, 90 mins, video
Directed by Jon Jones

When widowed cabbie, Ray (Paul Freeman) picks up a fare from the local school, little does he realise how much it will change his world. His passenger is Jim (Alun Armstrong), a public school Latin teacher who has just retired after being both a pupil and a teacher at his

school. He is determined to do two things with his life: travel and find love.

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD

EAT MY SHORTS

9.10pm Academy Twin

A terrific and eclectic selection of short films that range from the comedy to violence with everything in between. A guy talks about lovers on both sides of a bridge in Abridged. Boys Grammar is not the place to be if you are a little different. Jen wants to be a fag hag in Deliriously Jen, but has no idea how. The American Hitchcocked has a similar name to an Aussie short from last year, and similar references but takes a tougher tack. An African American student comes to terms with his relationship with another boy in On The Low. A schoolteacher learns that the best lessons can be learnt at Playtime. On another note, a hyper real and gritty prison musical in which a young man with a Pretty Face becomes the object of desire. Andrew tries to remove a ring from his finger in Removal.

ABRIDGED, US, 2005 8 mins Directed by Mark McCormick; BOYS GRAMMAR, Australia, 2005, 8 mins. Directed by Dean Francis; DELIRIOUSLY JEN, US, 2005, 13 mins. Directed by Angus Oblong; HITCHCOCKED, US, 2005, 8 mins. Directed by David M Young; ON THE LOW, US, 2004, 14 mins. Directed by Luther M Mace; PLAYTIME (AMSER CHWARAE), Wales, 2004, 10 mins. Directed by Arwel Gruffydd; PRETTY FACE, Ireland, 2005, 9 mins. Directed by Fintan Brady; REMOVAL, US, 2004, 4 mins. Directed by Jo J Barker

GOOD BOYS (YELADIM TOVIM)

9.40pm Academy Twin

Israel, 2005, 75 mins, video
Written & directed by Yair Hochner
Seventeen-year-old Meni wears only the most fashionable clothes, loves music and the cinema and works as a rent boy. He has an adoptive mother who is also a transgender sex worker. One night he meets Tal, also a hustler and they decide to spend the night together. From that moment, their lives take on new meaning in this touching debut feature.

UNVEILED (FREMDE HAUT)

7.00pm Dendy Newtown

Germany/Austria, 2005, 97 mins, 35mm
Directed by Angelina Maccarone
German and Farsi with English Subtitles
Fariba (Jasmin Tabatabai), prosecuted in Iran because of her love for a woman, flees to Germany. But her application for asylum is turned down. Her desperate prospects are improved by the suicide of her fellow-inmate Siamak: she assumes his identity and using his temporary permit of sojourn, is sent to a province village. Obligated to uphold her male disguise, a single mistake could blow her cover. With her extraordinary presence, actor Jasmin Tabatabai captures with beautiful subtlety Fariba's restricted means of expression. Fariba takes an illegal job and meets Anne.

COULD YOU BE MORE GAY

Spending more and more time together, they become dangerously close. Anne begins to suspect Fariba's true identity.

queer_pixels: THE SCREEN THE EYE

MY MOTHER LIKES WOMEN (A MI MADRE LE GUSTAN LAS MUJERES)

9.00pm Dendy Newtown

Spain, 2001, 96 mins, 35mm
Directed by Ines Paris & Daniela Fejerman
Spanish with English Subtitles

On her birthday Sofia, (Rosa Maria Sarda), a renowned Spanish pianist, delivers a stunning announcement: she has fallen in love again. To their surprise, it's Mum's new girlfriend. The three at first try, then fail, to react like the modern, tolerant, progressive women they are supposed to be.

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD



Left To Right: Like A Brother (Comme Un Frere), When I'm 64, Unveiled (Fremde Haut), Good Boys (Yeladim Tovim), My Mother Likes Women (A Mi Madre Le Gustan Las Mujeres)

21ST TUESDAY FEBRUARY

GASOLINE (BENZINA)

7.00pm Academy Twin

Italy, 2002, 88 mins, 35mm

Directed by Monica Stambrini
Italian with English subtitles

Fiery, dark-haired Stella (Maya Sansa), an intense auto mechanic, and nervous, blonde Lenni, (Regina Orioli), are young, in love and from opposite ends of the social spectrum. They run a gas station until Lenni's mother appears and voices her disapproval of their romance. When Stella takes action in the heat of the moment, blood is spilled and the young women end up with a corpse on their hands. The lovers realise they must flee in order to stay together. *Gasoline*, the directorial debut from Monica Stambrini created with an all-female crew, is an erotic, tension filled crime thriller based on a novel by Elena Stancanelli. This very dark and surreal road movie moves with reference to *Thelma and Louise*, and a hint of *Heavenly Creatures*. It's also full of film references to the work of David Lynch, the Coen Brothers, Jane Campion's *Sweetie*, and *Go Fish*.

queer_pixels: THE SCREEN THE EYE

KINKY BOOTS

7.30pm Academy Twin

UK, 2005, 107 mins, 35mm

Directed Julian Jarrold

www.thefilmfactory.co.uk/kinkyboots

Following the sudden death of his father, Charlie Price (Joel Edgerton) takes up the reins of the family's traditional Northampton shoe business. Orders are dropping and bankruptcy looms. Then he meets Lola, a sassy drag star who convinces him that there is another niche market out there.

"I found this film so funny that my mascara ran down my face. In fact I haven't laughed so much since watching *Some Like It Hot*." — IMDB.com

BLOOD SWEAT & GLITTER

9.10pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 80 mins, video

Directed by Sasha Aitken

San Francisco's notorious Trannyshack Club has an annual competition for Miss Trannyshack. Sasha Aitken takes his cameras behind the scenes to give a no holds barred look at the preparations, rehearsals, bitchiness and judging of the contest.

YAJI & KITA: THE MIDNIGHT PILGRIMS

9.40pm Academy Twin

Japan, 2005, 124 mins, 35mm

Directed by Kudo Kankuro

Japanese with English subtitles

A crazy Japanese road movie/live action anime/buddy buddy film. Yaji and Kita are two Samurai class guys who live in the Edo period Japan who decide to go on a pilgrimage to the Ise Shrine. The couple are gay lovers. One is hooked on drugs — blue pills, magic mushrooms or syringes. Another suffers from hallucinogenic nightmares and they both think the shrine will cure them. You can sing along with the song 'Born ... Born To be Gay' and witness the duo on a present day motorcycle before being sent back to the Edo period by a cop. Add some Japanese Monty Pythonesque touches and you may get the idea of this unique film, or you may not. You have certainly not seen anything like *Yaji & Kita* in our festival before.

queer_pixels: PLAYGIRLS II

THE JOURNEY (SANCHARRAM)

7.00pm Dendy Newtown

India, 2004, 107 mins, 35mm

Directed by Ligy J. Pullappally

Malayalam with English subtitles

This debut feature set in lush rural Kerala covers territory rarely visited by Malayalam filmmakers. *The Journey* begins with the childhood friendship between beautiful Delilah and idealistic Kiran who moves in next door. Though their first stab at intimacy leaves Delilah shaken, a romance evolves for both women. But when their romance is discovered, the scandal is explosive. This film was made as a means of effecting greater social change in India.

Winner of the Chicago Award for Best Film, 40th Chicago International Film Festival

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD

BROTHER TO BROTHER

9.00pm Dendy Newtown

US, 2004, 90 mins, video

Directed by Rodney Evans

This powerful and highly applauded film follows an emotional and psychological journey of a young, black, gay artist as he discovers the hidden legacies of the gay and lesbian subcultures within the Harlem renaissance.

"Radiantly smart, sexy and deeply affecting." — Film Journal International



Left To Right: Gasoline (Benzina), Kinky Boots, Blood Sweat & Glitter, Yaji & Kita: The Midnight Pilgrims, Brother To Brother

22ND WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY

TRANSPARENT

7.00pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 61 mins, video
Directed by Jules Rosskam

A documentary about female-to-male transsexuals who have given birth to, and raised, their children. Through the incredible stories of 19 individuals, we get a rare glimpse of life on both sides of the gender divide, where basic assumptions about human nature and social roles do not apply. While all share the experience of going through childbirth, the film shows the diverse ways in which each individual reconciles this seemingly contradictory part of their history – giving birth – with their male identity. While some can hardly believe they once bore a child, others view the experience of childbirth as the watershed moment when they realised they were in the wrong body.

WITH: TRANSFAMILY

Germany, 2005, 30 mins, video
Directed by Sabine Bernardi

THIRD MAN OUT: A DONALD STRACHEY MYSTERY

7.30pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 138 mins, video
Directed by Ron Oliver
A crime mystery based on the novels by Richard Stevenson. Detective

Donald Strachey is hired to protect gay activist John Rutka, known for outing public citizens. Strachey abandons bodyguard duty when he feels Rutka is staging the threats against himself. Then Rutka turns up dead.

"Gay television network Here! comes up with this very clever, entertaining telefilm based on a series about a gay detective. There are to be more in the series, and if they're as much fun as Third, there's hardly a reason to miss any of them"

– Marilyn Moss, Hollywood Reporter

MRS STEVENS HEARS THE MERMAIDS SINGING

9.10pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 126 mins, video
Directed by Linda Thornburg

This debut independent feature from Linda Thornburg is a slow-paced adaptation of May Sarton's novel of the same name. Sarton's 1965 novel is a semi-autobiographical tale of a poet Hilary Stevens, whose work re-emerges in the literary world after a length absence when she is in her 70s. Hilary's previous notoriety stemmed from a daring lesbian-themed novel published in the 1920s. Sarton is alluding here to Radclyffe Hall's controversial 1928 book, *The Well of Loneliness*. The film centres on

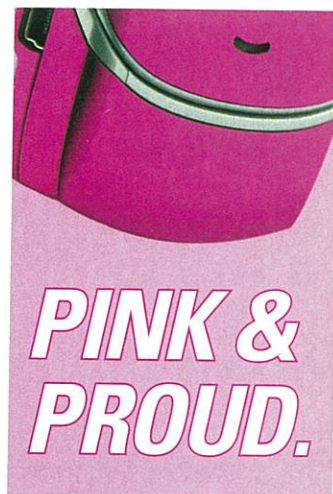
two young critics, who arrive at Hilary's house for an interview. The cat and mouse game begins, as they ask intimate personal questions of Hilary, prompting flashbacks that reveal the source of her inspiration has always been the women she has loved from the 1920s to the '60s. While the film struggles to manage the challenges of Sarton's very dense literary dialogue, the significance of the novel itself makes the film worth considering.

THREE DANCING SLAVES (LE CLAN)

9.40pm Academy Twin

France, 2004, 90 mins, video
Directed by Gael Morel

Actor and director Gael Morel (*Wild Reeds*) powerfully captures the pent-up, raw, explosive energy of young men grappling with their burgeoning masculinity in a resort town in the French Alps. The focus of the film is three sizzling hot French-Algerian brothers, Christopher, Marc and Olivier. Christopher, the eldest, is just out of prison; Marc the middle brother is on a non-stop road to self-destruction; the closeted youngest, Olivier is having an affair with the gorgeous Hicham. Gael Morel tackles issues of masculinity, violence and sexuality head on in this dance of three brothers. He casts a gay actor as the straight brother and a straight actor as the gay brother.



HELLBENT

9.00pm Dendy Newtown

US, 2005, 85 mins, video
Written and directed by Paul Etheridge-Ouzts
www.hellbent-movie.com

Horror movies are taken in a new all-male direction in Paul Etheridge-Ouzts debut film *Hellbent*. The twist on the usual cast of characters includes the beefcake cowboy, the SM fetishist, the biker rebel, the hunky boy next door and the cross-dresser. Four friends are ready for a wild night at the annual West Hollywood Halloween



Left To Right: Transparent, Third Man Out: A Donald Strachey Mystery, Mrs Stevens Hears The Mermaids Singing, Three Dancing Slaves (Le Clan), Hellbent

23RD THURSDAY FEBRUARY

TAKE A DEEP BREATH (DISI DUBOKO)

7.00pm Academy Twin

Serbia, 2004, 80 mins, 35mm
Directed by Dragan Marinkovic
Serbian with English Subtitles

"...and always remember: Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away." — George Carlin

This quote from George Carlin captures the mood of this film about the gap between the generations in contemporary Serbia and a young woman's attempts to make her own way. The film centres on angst-ridden Sasha, who threatens to run away to Canada with her boyfriend Stephen, until a car accident lands them both in the hospital. While Sasha emerges unscathed from the crash, Stephen must spend months recovering. Enter Lana, Stephen's hot, redheaded, bohemian sister. Lana and Sasha quickly bond over Stephen's injuries — and then their bonding becomes a whole lot more. Sasha has more to contend with than just a new lesbian relationship. Her mother has taken a lover and moved out. This leaves Sasha alone with her pill-popping, self-obsessed father, who, upon finding out about her lesbian dalliances, decides to put an end to them.

queer_pixels: **PLAYGIRLS I**

ADAM & STEVE

7.30pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 100 mins, video
Written and Directed by Craig Chester
Craig Chester, Malcolm Gets,
Parker Posey, Chris Kattan

In 1987 a Goth boy meets a disco dancer at a nightclub. The unlikely pair hit it off and go home together, where the night turns into a total disaster. Fast-forward 15 years. Fashions and hairstyles have changed and the couple meet up again — totally unaware they were a one-night stand 15 years ago. Out gay actors Gets and Chester have a real screen chemistry and bring a lot of fun and emotion to their roles. The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Film festival compared this wacky and raunchy comedy to films such as *When Harry Met Sally* and *My Best Friend's Wedding*. Expect a gay time of hilarity and romance.

LOVER OTHER

9.10pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 55 mins, video
Directed by Barbara Hammer

Lover Other provides soul food for those wondering how to creatively resist in repressive times. Veteran experimental filmmaker Barbara Hammer's latest offering deals with forgotten lesbian surrealist artists, Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore. The two half-sisters, also lovers, fled Paris in the '30s to live on the island of Jersey, only to see it become occupied by the Nazis in 1940. Bravely and outrageously using their art to defy the Nazis, they were sentenced to death in 1944. They survived. The extraordinary, revealing archive material that celebrates their talent and courage more than makes up for the sometimes intrusive neo-surrealist presentation.

WITH: EKLETIKA DANCE SCHOOL

Hungary, 2004, 17 mins video
Directed by Maria Takacs

AND: UNEXPECTED BLOW: RELIEVED

The Netherlands, 2003, 15 mins, video
Directed by Juul Bovenborg

queer_pixels: **PLAYGIRLS I**

ZONA ROSA

9.40pm Academy Twin

US/Mexico, 2005, 65 mins, video
Mexican & English with English Subtitles

A well chosen group of allegedly straight exotic male dancers strut their stuff at El Antro, a mixed gay/straight nightclub in the Zona Rosa section of Mexico City. The dancers speak with some candour about their lives to director Dan Castle (*My Queer Career* winner for *The Visitor*). These are interspersed with film of their carefully choreographed strip shows and the occasional big dick contest. Since filming was completed some of these gay nightclubs have been closed down.

Director Dan Castle has taken his camera through the infamous and intimate strip joints of Mexico City's Zona Rosa. Not content to merely record performances, Castle has conducted up-close and personal interviews with the scintillating strippers, their family members and the actual club owners. The result is funny, sad, sensational and sexy all at the same time. This is the ultimate voyeur's trip into the exploration of the male psyche behind the meat market. —IMDB



Left To Right: 1 + 2 Take A Deep Breath (Disi Duboko), Adam & Steve, Lover Other, Zona Rosa

24TH FRIDAY FEBRUARY

WOMEN IN LOVE

7.00pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 60 mins, video

Directed by Karen Everett.

This video autobiography gives new meaning to the term *cinéma vérité* as Everett unflinchingly films her most intimate moments to bring her own experience of lesbian life to the screen. We ride the rough terrain of exes, friends, and roommates, some of whom manage to fit all of these titles. The personal drama unfolds in scenes that move from San Francisco's lesbian sex club to "responsible non-monogamy" lessons at Ethical Slut seminars. Everett and her friends, now approaching midlife, are part of a seminal generation of young lesbians who immigrated to San Francisco in legions in the 1980s. They redefined sexuality in their own style: creating lesbian pornography, strip clubs and sex toy stores. Some of these figures will be familiar including Jackie Strano and Shar Rednour, who pioneered the lesbian porn video business (*How to Fuck in High Heels* MGFF 2001) and Phyllis Christopher, a leading photographer of lesbian erotica.

WITH: MASHA MOM

Poland, 2003, 35 mins, video

Directed by Michael Bukojenski

queer_pixels: PLAYGIRLS II

YOUTH AND LOVELY

7.30pm Academy Twin

This international mix brings together the lusts, dreams, dramas, complications, confusions and opportunities of being young and lovely. The very shy Ben secretly lusts after the unattainable bad boy at school in *Dare*. The *Latch Key* proves a vitally important turning point when two adolescent brothers farcically scheme to woo their respective playmates for an afternoon of sex just as mum wanders home from work. A young man gets a lesson in how to pick up on a train in *How I Learned to Speak*. In *All Over Brazil*, a young Scottish boy plans to head out to a concert in his sister's heels. Things get complicated for two young punks on their way to see their favourite band in *Night Swimming*. A young Israeli boy faces up to his overbearing older brother in *A Different War*. The two dimensional homophobes at a Bavarian village school turn out to be more fully formed than first appearances would suggest in *Out Now*.

ALL OVER BRAZIL, Scotland, 2004, 10 mins. Directed by Andrew Ward. DARE, US, 2005, 16 mins. Directed by Adam Salky. A DIFFERENT WAR, Israel, 2004, 15 mins. Directed by Nadav Gal. HOW I LEARNED TO SPEAK, Canada, 2005, 4 mins. Directed by Christopher Douglas. LATCH KEY, US, 2005, 12 mins. Directed by Garth Bardsley. NIGHT SWIMMING, US, 2005, 18 mins. Directed by Daniel Falcone. OUT NOW, Germany, 2005, 20 mins. Directed by Sven J. Matten.

UNVEILED (FREMDE HAUT)

9.10pm Academy Twin

Germany/Austria, 2005, 97 mins, 35mm

Directed by Angelina Maccarone
German and Farsi with English Subtitles

Fariba (Jasmin Tabatabai), prosecuted in Iran because of her love for a woman, flees to Germany. But her application for asylum is turned down. Her desperate prospects are improved by the suicide of her fellow-inmate Siamak: she assumes his identity and using his temporary permit of sojourn, is sent to a province village. Obligated to uphold her male disguise, a single mistake could blow her cover. With extraordinary presence, Tabatabai beautifully captures Fariba's restricted means of expression. Fariba takes an illegal job in a sauerkraut factory, where she meets Anne. Under any other circumstances Fariba would gladly respond to Anne's advances, however, she is afraid to risk her disguise and Anne has begun to suspect Fariba's true identity.

queer_pixels: THE SCREEN THE EYE



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MY BROTHER NIKHIL

9.40pm Academy Twin

India, 2005, 120 mins, 35mm

Directed by Onir
Hindi with English subtitles
www.mybrothernikhil.com

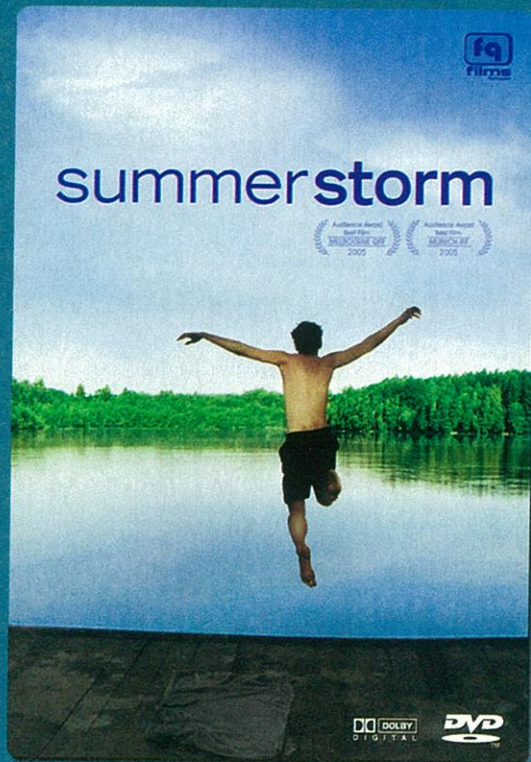
My Brother Nikhil has been making waves in India as the first Hindi movie to take on the twin taboos of homosexuality and HIV. Based on true events in India in the 1980s, when Nikhil (Sanjay Suri) has it all. He is a champion swimmer with a happy family. A routine blood test comes back positive for HIV and Nikhil is immediately quarantined. Family and friends shun him, and panicked swimmers flee the pool when he dives in.

"Thanks to an impassioned and sensitive script, Onir's debut film is a poignant story about family, the pressure to conform, love, loss and forgiveness" — Sandip Roy, San Francisco International LGBT Festival

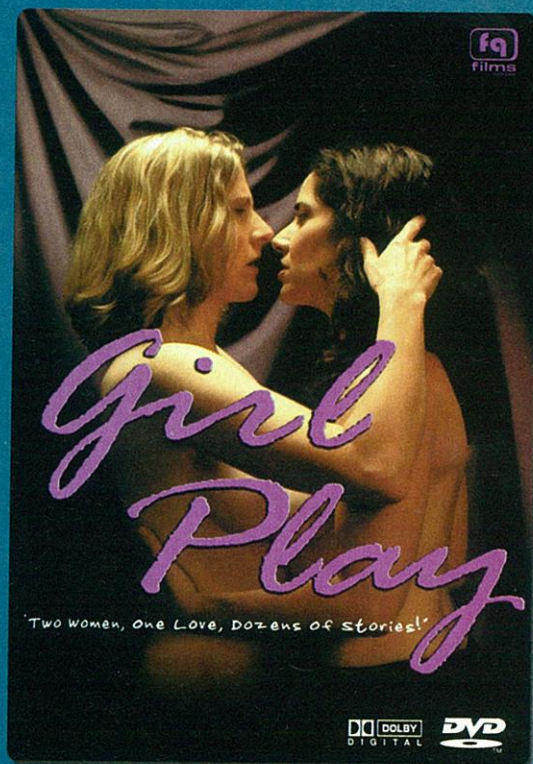


Left To Right: Women In Love, Out Now, Dare, Unveiled (Fremde Haut), My Brother Nikhil

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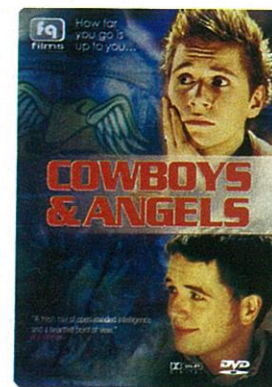
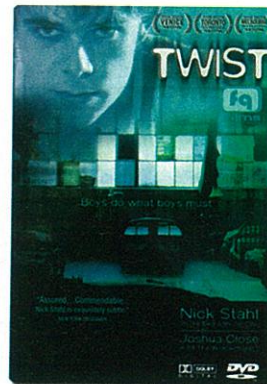
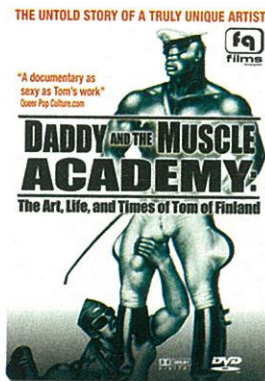
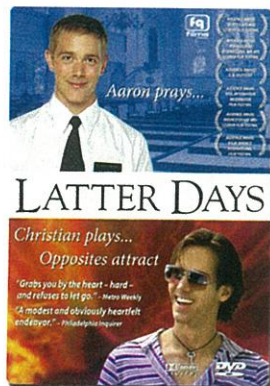
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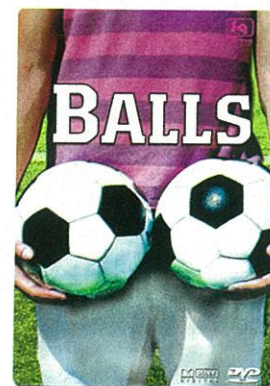
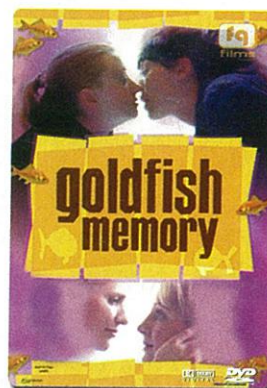
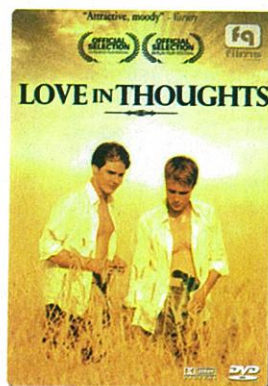
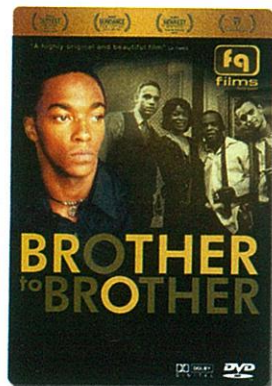
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25TH SATURDAY FEBRUARY

HERBIE: FULLY LOADED

2.3pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 101 mins, 35mm
Directed by Angela Robinson

Rated G: Persons of all ages admitted to this session.

Herbie: Fully Loaded is a retro recycling of the 1969 *The Love Bug* movie directed by the outstanding Angela Robinson who brought us all-girl action comedy *D.E.B.S.* The mystical, magical, possibly-possessed-but-in-a-good-way VW bug is in trouble. Herbie has been missing in action, awaiting demolition in a downtrodden junkyard. Just when it looks like his number is up, Herbie is rescued by gorgeous college graduate Maggie Peyton (Lindsay Lohan) who takes up the wheel of the famous Love Bug. She has tomboyish spunk and a confident strut and is determined to continue NASCAR racing against the wishes of her father.

WITH: D.E.B.S.

US, 2002, 10 mins, 35mm
Directed by Angela Robinson

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD

BALLS (GUYS & BALLS OR MANNER WIE WIR)

3.00pm Academy Twin

Germany, 2004, 106 mins, video
Directed by Sherry Horman
German with English subtitles
www.guysandballs-themovie.com

Ecki (Maximilian Bruckner) is a soccer fanatic. He is the goalie for his hometown team. A missed block in a major game puts him on the outer with his team and when he is caught kissing another guy, it is two strikes and you are out. Ecki forms an all-gay soccer team to take to his hometown for a grudge match against his homophobic mates. *Balls* has screened across the world winning several "best gay film" awards. It has everything going for it, good looking guys, humour, romance, sports action and a possible happy ending.

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD

3 NEEDLES

4.45pm Academy Twin

Canada, 2005, 125 mins
Directed by Thom Fitzgerald
English, French, Xhosa, Afrikaans, Mandarin dialogue with English subtitles
Thom Fitzgerald's films have made regular appearances at our film festival over the years starting with his auspicious debut, *The Hanging Garden* and continuing

with *Beefcake* and *The Event*. This film is about the spread of HIV in different countries, weaving together three stories from three continents with scenes of great power and complexity. One story features Chloë Sevigny as a nun battling South African superstitions. Lucy Liu is a blood collector in rural China who gives birth alone, in agony, on a hillside. The third story revolves around a Montreal porn actor (Shawn Ashmore), in a tale that could be modelled on that of straight porn star Marc Wallice, who was the subject of great scandal in 1998.

CELLULOID SALON

5.20pm Academy Twin

My Queer Career – The Best of the Rest!

This year the judges of *My Queer Career*, Miranda Dear, Adam Elliot and Mark Goeder, have curated a selection of the best of the rest of the competition. *Luna and the Moon* is a whimsical and unusual tale of love caught in the spinning orbit of fate. *Queeruption* follows the trials and tribulations of a group of politicised queers as they put on a week-long DIY festival full of workshops and parties. Two best mates growing up on the edge in rural Australia cross an invisible line and must pay the price in *Crash*. Trying to find *Lady 57* in one night is not easy in this comic strip style short. In an exclusive *Boys Grammar*

school, Gareth faces violent homophobia because of his sexuality. *Poppo* is a surreal and laconic western with tinges of horror. The world seems to twist and fold during one young man's *Late Nighter*. Who is killing the drag queens of Brisbane? The answer is in *Murder's a Drag*. Five women and friends share a conversation about life, love and lesbians in *Waiting for Lotto*.

BOYS GRAMMAR, Australia, 2005, 8 mins. Directed by Dean Francis. *CRASH*, Australia, 2004, 5 mins. Directed by David Moore. *LADY 57*, Australia, 2005, 18 mins. Directed by Teresa Avila. *LATE NIGHTER*, Australia, 2005, 5 mins. Directed by Xander Ki. *LUNA AND THE MOON*, Australia, 2005, 7 mins. Directed by Katie O'Neil. *MURDER'S A DRAG*, Australia, 2005, 8 mins. Directed by Nick Poter. *POPPY*, Australia, 2005, 11 mins. Directed by Sophie Boord. *QUEERUPTION*, Australia, 2005, 9 mins. Directed by Inka Stafrace. *WAITING FOR LOTTO*, Australia, 2005, 15 mins. Directed by Peter Edwards.

GYPO

7.00pm Academy Twin

UK, 2005, 98 mins, video
Directed by Jan Dunn. Produced by Elaine Wickham

This stunning debut from Elaine Wickham and Jan Dunn broke new ground as the first UK-certified Dogme95 feature film. A low budget, independent feature, shot in just 13 days and based on an improvised script, *Gypo* won the Outstanding Achievement in Production Award, British Independent Film Awards 2005. The Danish Dogme95 "vow of chastity" means that the film was shot on real locations with hand-held cameras and no added sound, lighting, or musical effects. Helen (Pauline McLynn), *Angela's Ashes* and *Father Ted* is married to Paul (Paul McGann, *Withnail & I*). And they are struggling to keep it together. Into



Left To Right: *Herbie: Fully Loaded*, *Balls (Guys & Balls Or Manner Wie Wir)*, *3 Needles*, *Celluloid Salon*, *Gypo*

their lives comes Tasha (Chloe Sirene), a Romany Czech refugee, awaiting her British passport. Told in three revelatory narratives, *Gypo* reveals the disintegration of an ordinary British working class family.

"Jaw-dropping twists and terrifying performances from Pauline McLynn, Paul McGann and Chloe Sirene."

— Scotland's Sunday Herald

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD

50 WAYS OF SAYING FABULOUS

7.30pm Academy Twin

New Zealand, 2005, 90 mins, 35mm
Directed by Stewart Main
www.50waysofsayingfabulous.com

Graeme Aitken's novel *50 Ways Of Saying Fabulous* has been a popular read for many years. We are thrilled to have the Australian premiere of the wonderful film version.

"50 Ways of Saying Fabulous is a poignant and highly entertaining coming-of-age story about how lives can be transformed by love and friendship. Set in the long, hot summer of 1975, the film is the charming story of 13-year-old Billy, who is about to discover that growing up is a lot more confusing than he could have imagined. Instead of playing rugby, he spends his days imagining he is Lana, the heroine of his favourite TV show. As Billy learns about his sexuality, everything he knows is called into question, including his lifelong friendship with tomboy Lou. A film that will remind you of those awkward teen years while entertaining and warming your cynical adult heart." — Kathleen S, Image nation Montreal LGBT Festival

MY MOTHER LIKES WOMEN (A MI MADRE LE GUSTAN LAS MUJERES)

9.10pm Academy Twin

Spain, 2001, 96 mins, 35mm
Directed by Ines Paris & Daniela Fejerman
Spanish with English Subtitles

On her birthday Sofia, (Rosa Maria Sarda), a renowned Spanish pianist, delivers a stunning announcement: she has fallen in love again. This staccato paced Spanish comedy starring two Almodovar favourites is full of comic misadventures that signal a sharp nod to Woody Allen. Ines Paris and Daniela Fejerman's daring feature debut is the first Spanish feature film to be directed by a team of women.

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD

RENT

9.40pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 135 mins, 35mm
Directed by Chris Columbus
Anthony Rapp, Adam Pascal, Rosario Dawson, Taye Diggs

This is the film version of the Pulitzer and Tony Award winning musical about bohemians in the East Village of New York City struggling with life, love, AIDS, and their impact on America. The musical played to great success in Sydney. It has a fabulous mix of lesbian, gay, bi, trans and straight characters. The lesbian duet is said to be a highlight.

"Rent is one of the best film musicals in years — exuberant, sexy and life affirming in equal measure". — Kirk Honeycutt, Hollywood Reporter

26TH SUNDAY FEBRUARY

THE EDUCATION OF SHELBY KNOX: SEX, LIES AND EDUCATION

3.00pm Academy Twin

US, 2004, 86 mins, video
Directed by Marion Lipschutz & Rose Rosenblatt

Persons 15 years and over admitted to this session.

In this verite style documentary we meet 15-year-old Shelby Knox, a Southern Baptist girl from Lubbock, Texas, a centre of the ultra-conservative Bible belt with some of the highest teen pregnancy and STI rates in the US. Complete with a promise ring donned after her True Love Waits celibacy ceremony, a virginity-preservation program, Shelby crusades for more comprehensive sex education in schools against Texas state laws that mandate of abstinence-only sex education. Much to the dismay of her conservative Republican parents, Shelby makes the connection between sex education and gay rights. She takes up the cause of the Gay-Straight Alliance who is suing the Lubbock School Board, joins a protest against God Hates Fags and becomes a liberal Democrat.

Best Cinematography Award, Sundance 2005, Audience Award, South by Southwest Film Festival

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD

INNOCENT

2.30pm Academy Twin

Hong Kong, 2005, 80 mins, video
Directed by Simon Chung

Innocent is the story of a Hong Kong family who immigrate to Canada and in the process, is forced to confront a host of emotional and cultural problems. The story of the Tang family is told through the eyes of the young hero, Eric, a 17-year-old boy who must not only adjust to the new environment, but also come to terms with his homosexuality. Eric encounters a series of potential romantic interests, from his handsome hockey-playing cousin Chris to middle-aged lawyer, Larry. But it is his unconventional classmate James with whom Eric is most enamoured.

WITH: DAYLIGHT GHOST

Thailand, 2005, 10 mins
Directed by Taryat Datsathean & Phisan Sangjan



Left To Right: 50 Ways Of Saying Fabulous, My Mother Likes Women (A Mi Madre Le Gustan Las Mujeres), Rent, Innocent, The Education Of Shelby Knox: Sex, Lies And Education

26TH SUNDAY FEBRUARY

BOTH

4.45pm Academy Twin

US/Peru, 2005, 86 mins, video
Directed by Lisset Barcellos

Rebecca Duarte is a strong woman and resolute bisexual. Kicking ass in a flaming Godzilla costume or jumping out of a car in high heels and a big red wig are part of her everyday work as a stunt double. When she receives an unexpected package from an aunt, Rebecca's life begins to unravel. The package contains a photo album of her family in Peru, including pictures of her brother, who died before Rebecca could know him. The photos set off memories that cannot be silenced. As she follows the leads, Rebecca learns a truth about herself that shakes her to the core: the brother she was always told about was, in fact, herself. Rebecca learns of her childhood diagnosis as a hermaphrodite and the ensuing clitorrectomy that turned her "officially" into a girl, and left her without the ability to have an orgasm.

WINNING GAY SHORTS

5.20pm Academy Twin

These short films have collected more than 12 best short awards from around the world. *Irene Williams: Queen Of Lincoln Road* had won seven audience and jury awards by the end of November. This wonderful documentary looks at

an eccentric who designs some of the kookiest couture in South Beach, Florida. The Swedish *Nights in Love* charts the growing acceptance of a young blond guy to his emerging homosexuality. A married man has struggled to remain faithful for many years, but gives into desires in *Myopia*. Sometimes the ugliest things can be the most beautiful as is shown in the imaginative western *The Sadness of Johnson Joe Jangles*.

IRENE WILLIAMS: QUEEN OF LINCOLN ROAD, US, 2005, 22 mins. Directed by Eric Smith. NIGHTS IN LOVE, Sweden, 2004, 29 mins. Directed by Hakon Liu; MYOPIA, US, 2005, 29 mins. Directed by Mark Alan Dashaw; THE SADNESS OF JOHNSON JOE JANGLES, Canada, 2004, 19 mins. Directed by Jeffrey St Jules.

PRODUCING ADULTS

7.00pm Academy Twin

Finland, 2004, 100 mins, 35 mm
Directed by Aleksi Salmenpera
Finnish with English Subtitles

Aleksis Salmenpera's accomplished debut is Finland's first mainstream lesbian feature, a bittersweet reproductive romantic comedy of errors and Finland's official entry for Best Foreign Film for the 2004 Academy Awards. Venla is a fertility counselor for young couples looking to conceive. She's been with her boyfriend, Antero, for over 17 years. But he goes to obscene lengths of deception to avoid conception. Determined to have a child, Venla concocts a plan to have a

secret "after hours" insemination at the fertility clinic where she works. To her surprise, she begins to develop strong feelings for the gorgeous Satu, the female doctor who is in on Venla's scheme.

Winner of the Critic's Prize, Stockholm International Film Festival

queer_pixels: PLAYGIRLS II

GO WEST

7.30pm Academy Twin

Bosna Herzogovenia, 2005, 95 mins, 35mm
Directed by Ahmed Imamovic
Bosnian with English subtitles

A big hit at the Sarajevo Film Festival, this courageous and controversial debut film pairs historical tragedy with a surreal comedy of disguise. Kenan is a classical musician and a Muslim. His lover Milan is a Bosnian Serb. They are living in an extremely homophobic Balkans in 1992. When war breaks out, Milan disguises Kenan as a woman and brings him home as his new girlfriend. Excellent performances and a strong script make this powerful viewing.

GETTING THE GIRLS SHORTS

9.10pm Academy Twin

These shorts venture into the treacherous territory of how and why we initiate our romantic pursuits. Heir to the lesbian vampire tradition in her family, Tara must find her

true love before the next full moon, or wait another 120 years to get *Some Real Fangs*. Finding herself with a cockroach infestation in her house, Amy drunkenly wishes for the piddler to come and whisk them away. She is not prepared for the mythical character that appears at her door or the effect it will have on her in *The Piper*. Too shy for the scene, fashion-conscious Sophie risks the personals in her quest for a girlfriend. But is the woman who responds interested in Sophie or in her fabulous wardrobe? Find out in *Cupboard Love*. An aspiring young writer struggles to find the perfect plot for an erotic short story while a diversity of unexpected characters encourage her to try out some exotic *Inclinations* of her own.

CUPBOARD LOVE, UK, 2005, 9 mins. Directed by Beatrice Hitchman & Jen Risk. GIRL CLEANS SKIN Canada, 2004, 10 mins. Directed by Sook-Yin Lee. HI MAYA, Switzerland, 12 mins, 2004. Directed by Claudia Lorenz. INCLINATIONS, US, 2004, 15 mins. Directed by Jen Simmons. THE PIPER, UK, 2005, 10 mins. Directed by Abbe Robinson. SOME REAL FANGS, Canada, 2004, 34 mins. Directed by Desiree Lim. SUM TOTAL, India/US, 2004, 5 mins. Directed by Sonali.

HAPPY ENDINGS

9.40pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 130 mins, 35mm
Written and directed by Don Roos
www.happyendingsthemovie.com

Don Roos deftly weaves multiple stories to create a witty and sexy look at love, family, secrets, lies, second chances and the sheer unpredictability of life. Blackmail, making movies, adoption, gay sperm donors, lesbian mums, a rock band and a hot female drifter who sleeps with the gay kid before moving on to other family members – these are a few of the elements of this original comedy.



Left To Right: Both, Producing Adults, Go West, Inclinations, Happy Endings

27TH MONDAY FEBRUARY

LONG TERM SHORTS

7.30pm Academy Twin

Through intersecting timelines and modern ideas about non-monogamy, an *Open* relationship turns the lives of three women into a whirlwind of betrayal, bingo and sex toys. Sloan and Candy Price once had a perfect life together, until Candy spent all their money in *Never Rob a Bank With Someone You Love*. Out on the deserted highway with an impossible back seat driver for a long-term girlfriend, things could change forever in *Stuck*. *Come on Baby* brings us the making of a Danish family through a series of confusions and comic misadventures. For *Dani & Alice*, sticking together or breaking up is complicated by the violence that has entered their relationship. *A Lover's Discourse: Fragments*, based on Roland Barthes' analysis of *l'affair amoureuse*, takes us from love at first sight to disaffection. *Breaking Up Really Sucks* takes on the comic territory of the lesbian aptitude for swift cohabitation.

BREAKING UP REALLY SUCKS, US, 2002. Directed by Jen McGlone. **COME ON BABY (HVEM DU END ER)**, Denmark, 2004, 24 mins. Directed by Martin Strange-Hansen. **DANI & ALICE**, US, 2004, 12 min. Directed by Roberta Marie Munroe. **A LOVER'S DISCOURSE: FRAGMENTS**, US, 2004, 15 mins. Directed by Donna Vermeer. **NEVER ROB A BANK WITH SOMEONE YOU LOVE**, US, 2004, 10 mins. Directed by Jill Maxcy. **OPEN**, US, 2005, 12 mins. Directed by Teale Faila. **STUCK**, US, 2002, 7 mins. Directed by Jamie Babbitt.

SAY UNCLE

9.40pm Academy Twin

US, 2004, 91 mins, 35mm
Written and directed by Peter Paige
Peter Paige, Kathy Najimy, Anthony Clark
Queer as Folk star Peter Paige writes, directs and stars in this film about a gay man accused of child molestation. Paul (Peter Paige) is a gay artist who sees the world more like a child than an adult. His best friend is his godson, and when the child moves to Japan with the rest of the family, Paul is distraught. He makes friends with some children in the park and is then accused of being a paedophile.

"Paige demonstrates his chops not only as an actor, but also as a writer/director. This is one of those movies that had me thinking about it long after I left the theatre." — IMDB.Com

50 WAYS OF SAYING FABULOUS

7.00pm Dendy Newtown

New Zealand, 2005, 90 mins, 35mm
Directed by Stewart Main
www.50waysofsayingfabulous.com

Graeme Aitken's novel *50 Ways Of Saying Fabulous* has been a popular read for many years. We are thrilled to have the Australian premiere of the wonderful film version.

"*50 Ways of Saying Fabulous* is a poignant and highly entertaining coming-of-age story about how lives can be transformed by love and friendship. Set in the long hot summer of 1975, the film is the charming story of 13-year-old Billy, who is about to discover that growing up is a lot more confusing than he could have imagined. Instead of playing rugby, he spends his days imagining he is Lana, the heroine of his favourite TV show. As Billy learns about his sexuality, everything he knows is called into question, including his lifelong friendship with tomboy Lou. A film that will remind you of those awkward teen years while entertaining and warming your cynical adult heart." — Kathleen S, Image nation Montreal LGBT Festival

FELINE MASQUERADE (KATZENBALL)

9.00pm Dendy Newtown

Switzerland, 2005, 87 mins, 35mm
Directed by Veronika Minder
Swiss, German & French
with English Subtitles

Winner of the Teddy Award for Best Documentary at the 2005 Berlin Film Festival, this fascinating feature invites us into the secret world of the Swiss lesbian underground. What did it mean to be a gay woman when the word "lesbian" was still unknown? When there was no such thing as coming out because no woman would have dreamed of identifying her feelings as lesbian in public?

Based on interviews with five lesbian women of different generations, the film builds a rich and detailed picture of individuals who make up the fabric of a social movement. The stories and adventures that emerge from our five central characters are earnest, outrageous, delightful, disturbing, bizarre and hilarious, blending into a collage of anecdotes, contemporary documents, film and TV footage.

queer_pixels: PLAYGIRLS I



Left To Right: A Lover's Discourse: Fragments, Say Uncle, 50 Ways Of Saying Fabulous, 4 + 5 Feline Masquerade (Katzenball)

28TH TUESDAY FEBRUARY

EIGHTEEN

9.40pm Academy Twin

Canada, 2005, 105 mins
Written and directed by Richard Bell
Stars Brendan Fletcher, Paul Anthony, Alan Cummings, Ian McKellen
www.eightenthemovie.com

LOGGERHEADS

7.30pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 101 mins, 35mm
Directed by Tim Kirkman

The endangered loggerhead turtle lays its eggs in North Carolina, the setting for this beautiful and unsettling drama. *Loggerheads* follows four main characters, each at an emotional crossroads in their life, over one year, in three different North Carolina locations. Deftly weaving three stories told on Mother's Day, the film is a wonderful cinematic tapestry of love, loss and longing. Mark (the stunning and hunky Kip Pardue) is a drifter who comes to the town to help save the loggerhead turtles. He meets up with a sexy motel owner. Meanwhile Grace (Bonnie Hunt) is searching for the son she gave up for adoption and Elizabeth (Tess Harper) is trying to stand up to her stern preacher husband. *Loggerheads* had a well-deserved standing ovation at its San Francisco International LGBT Festival premiere.

queer_pixels: THE SCREEN THE EYE

Pip is a street kid who's meeting life head-on in the big city, says writer and director Richard Bell. On his 18th birthday he receives his grandfather's World War II memoirs on audio tape, a gift that awakens the ghost of the long lost world. His grandfather relates the story of the day he turned 18, fleeing German forces through the woods of France with a dying comrade hanging on for life. In Pip's contemporary way, he begins to live the parallel life of his grandfather, both lost in their environments and generations. Along Pip's path he stumbles into an unlikely alliance with Clark, a gay street hustler on the make, and Jenny, an aspiring social worker who tempts Pip with feelings of love and domesticity. He also forges a small but important relationship with a local priest, in whom he confides his deepest secret: the death of his brother and the heinous act his father committed against him before his passing. We screened Richard Bell's previous film *Two Brothers* in 2002 and are thrilled to have the Australian premiere of his new feature.

MASAHISTA (THE MASSEUR)

7.00pm Dendy Newtown

Philippines, 2005, 78 mins, 35mm
Directed by Brillante Mendoza
Spanish with English subtitles

Iliac is employed at Maharika, a gay massage salon. The boyish Iliac serves all clients the same way: first by disrobing, working the body with an oil massage before the final carnal deal. One morning, news reaches Iliac that his father has just slipped into a coma. The masseur then carries out his defined duties and roles: to his father and family, to his girlfriend, to his trade and to the customer who has made him a favourite.

Winner Golden Leopard, Locarno Film Festival Italy 2005

WITH: TO HOLD A HEART

US, 2005, 12 mins, video
Directed by Michael Wallin

LEFT LANE

9.00pm Dendy Newtown

US, 2004, 93 mins, video
Directed by Samantha Farinella

Ani DiFranco fans need to meet Alix Olson, former US National Slam Poetry champion, a headliner for HBO's Def Poetry Jam and a self described "road-poet-on-a-mission". Named by Concerned Women for America, a conservative women's group, as one of the 10 most dangerous women in the US, Olson tours 300 days and 200 plus gigs a year, living out of a van. A year in the making, *Left Lane* chronicles life on the road with Alix touring the US. We get a plethora of behind-the-scenes gems from spoken word workshops in high school's in George Bush country to two sign language interpreters at the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival discussing the challenges in expressing Olson's words with their hands.

Winner Best Documentary, Reel Pride Michigan LGBT Film Festival.

queer_pixels: BEWARE OF THE GOD



Left To Right: Loggerheads, Eighteen, 3 + 4 Masahista (The Masseur), Left Lane

1ST WEDNESDAY MARCH

SCREAMING QUEENS: THE RIOT AT COMPTON'S CAFETERIA

7.30pm Academy Twin

US, 2005, 57 mins, video
Directed by Victor Silverman
& Susan Stryker

"Transgender scholar Susan Stryker teams with writer/professor Victor Silverman to present the exciting story of a riot in the Tenderloin in which transgender prostitutes and gay activists fought back against police harassment. The forgotten incident took place in 1966, three years before Stonewall. It began when a policeman entered Compton's Cafeteria, a Tranny hangout, and took a transgender prostitute by the arm. She responded by throwing her coffee in his face. The fuse of mounting tensions was lit, and a riot began. By the time it was over, a police car had been burned." — San Francisco LGBT Film Festival

Historian Susan Stryker, a guest of the festival, will discuss her discovery of this event and the complex development of the LGBT rights movement with a Q&A after the film. Susan's trip has been supported by the Department of Critical and Cultural Studies, Macquarie University, and The Somatechnics Project.



CYCLES OF PORN: SEX/LIFE IN LA PART 2

9.40pm Academy Twin

Germany, 2005, 104 mins, video
Directed by Jochen Hick

In 1999 Mardi Gras Film festival audiences were treated to Jochen Hicks documentary *Sex/Life in LA*, that followed and interviewed several men working in the sex industry. Seven years later Hick returns to Los Angeles. He looks at some of the new sex outlets that have opened, including a web-cam fitted house where the tenants get free rent as long as they regularly have sex while the cameras are running. He also looks at other ways that men make money with their bodies on the Internet, and revisits some of the porno stars from his 1999 film. As you would expect from Jochen Hick, this is a sexy and revealing documentary.

SCAB

9.00pm Dendy Newtown

US, 2005, 101 mins, video
Written and directed by
Thomas Jason Davis
www.scabthemovie.com

West Hollywood, 2.40am. Ajay and a one-night stand swap spit. But instead of using Ajay's hole, the one-night stand makes new ones of his own. Left with a bug no antibiotic can quell, Ajay slips off the radar and into a sloppy quest for food. After several days of incommunicado, Teague (the requisite geek who unrequitedly loves Ajay) and Floor (the straight-guy friend) check in on Ajay.

"Aside from killing people and drinking their blood, what does vampirism ultimately make Ajay do? In my twisted little geek-boy fantasy, the lusted-for slut-boy Ajay finally admits that he loves the geek. It's like Sixteen Candles with cockrings, Say Anything with fangs and lube and a touch more self-loathing."
Thomas Jane Davis (director)

2ND THURSDAY MARCH CLOSING NIGHT

COTE D'AZUR (CRUSTACES & COQUILLAGES)

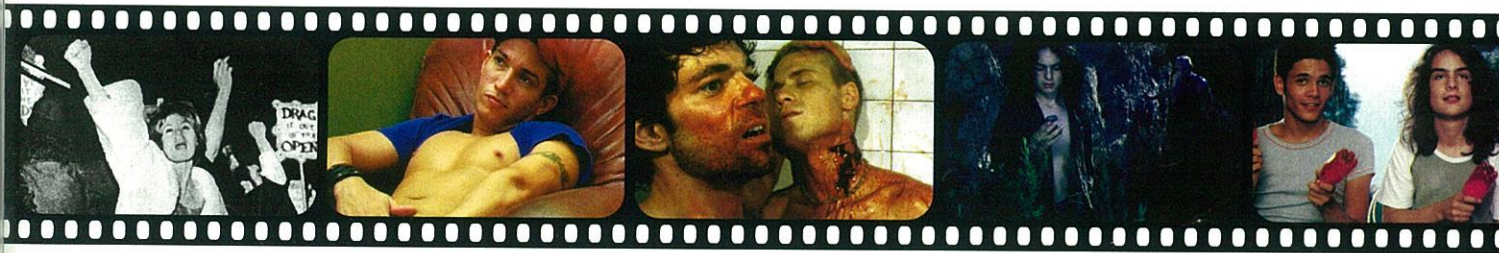
8.30pm Randwick Ritz Cinema

France, 2005, 90 mins, 35mm
French with English subtitles
Directed by Olivier Ducastel
& Jacques Martineau

The perfect summer film to end our festival, *Cote D'Azur* is a frothy, sexy French comedy set on the Mediterranean seaside. A family hole up in a house by the beach on the French Riviera for their summer holidays. From the start, taboos break down and the limits of love are tested. Arriving at the beach are the teenage son's cute gay friend, a secret lover, and a sexy plumber with a past. Excessive seafood intake and a lack of mobile phone network produces a series of decidedly farcical misunderstandings. Doors start banging with impeccable comic timing, matching the razor sharp wit of the family matriarch, Beatrice. Everyone, except the suddenly uptight father Marc, starts seeking passion in unexpected arms — or heading into the shower for a long masturbation session. The result is a totally entertaining romantic romp that ends the festival on a very high note.

Winner: Label Europa Cinemas
Award at Berlin Film Festival

*The My Queer Career Audience
Award will be presented tonight.*



Left To Right: Screaming Queens: The Riot At Compton's Cafeteria, Cycles Of Porn: Sex/Life In La Part 2, Scab, 4 + 5 Cote D'azur (Crustaces & Coquillages)

Official Selection
New York
Newfest GLFF

Official Selection
San Francisco
Frameline GLFF

Official Selection
London
International GLFF

Official Selection
Los Angeles
Outfest GLFF

Official Selection
Berlin
International FF

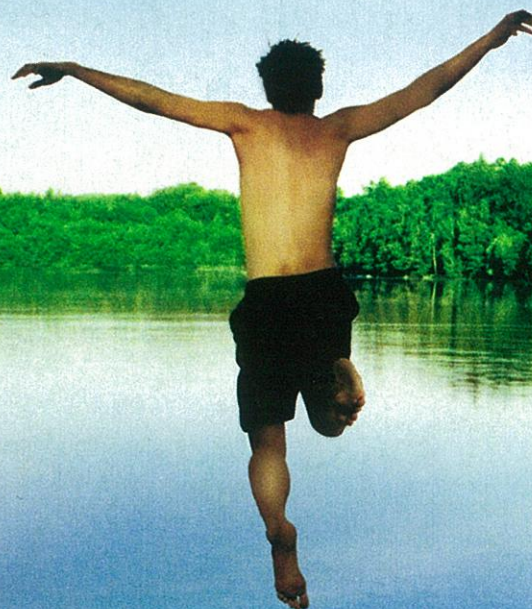
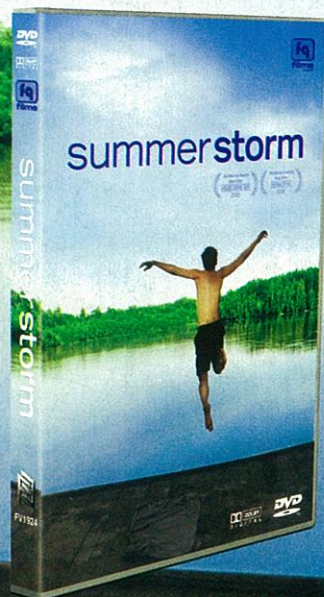
Official Selection
Philadelphia
International GLFF



summer storm

Audience Award
Best Film
MELBOURNE QFF
2005

Audience Award
Best Film
MUNICH IFF
2005



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