



PRESENTS

# QUEERDOC'07

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SEPT 12 - 20



queer screen



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\*ACON receives government funding primarily for HIV/AIDS-related work.

wonders of nature

## Welcome to queerDOC'07.

### from the director

For the past decade this festival has been a one-of-a-kind. A special nod to the chroniclers of our community, a chance to see into the lives of other queers, and an acknowledgement of the art of documentary filmmaking as a tool for fostering awareness, acceptance and social change.

The twelve extraordinary documentaries we bring you this year are drawn together in a collection we call *Wonders Of Nature*.

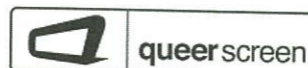
But this is no freak show. This is a celebration of the miraculous and marvellous that can be found anywhere, everyday.

Whether you are a Creationist, an Evolutionist or a Chaos Theorist, you still believe that all expressions of life are forged through one process. A process that provides us with: diversity within unity, inconsistency within cohesion, individuality within community - a process that gave rise to all of us, regardless of who we are.

Whether built in the image of a Divine Intelligence, or surfacing by chance from the Order of Nature, every creature has its equal place in this strange grand scheme.

Whoever, or whatever it is out there that has brought us all together, may we only be thankful for the chance to be here. Thankful we are not here alone. And thankful to our documenters who reveal to us the lives of our fellow life-forms.

Viva la difference,  
Lex Lindsay, Festival Director



### from the president

queerDOC is a vital, unique and critically important festival in Queer Screen's annual calendar of events. I congratulate our Festival Director Lex Lindsay and Programmer David Pearce on an extraordinary and engaging program. There will be many highlights, but for me the most exciting is that for the first time, we will be partnering with Performance Space and CarriageWorks for our opening night presentation of *Projecting the Body*, an intimate look at the life, career and legacy of Stephen Cummins.

This is an event not to be missed, and I hope you join us at CarriageWorks for a very special night.

I am also very pleased to welcome Volkswagen Group Australia as principal sponsor of queerDOC. Queer Screen is now driven by Volkswagen all year round, and we couldn't be happier. Thanks also to our Government Partners and Festival Partners for their generous support.

Enjoy queerDOC'07  
Katrina Márton, President, Queer Screen.

Principle Partner



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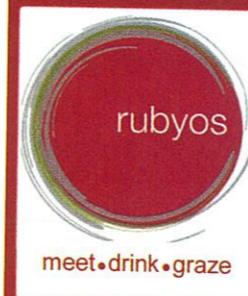
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## the illustrated anatomy

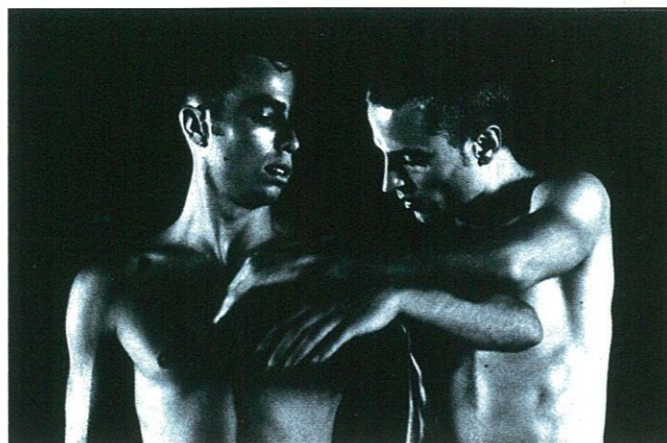
Wed Sept 12 7pm  
CarriageWorks

### Projecting the Body

Directed by Walter McIntosh  
Australia, 2007, 55 mins

Filmmaker Stephen Cummins blazed a trail through the turbulent 1980s, examining oppression, desire, and the politics of sexuality. Reacting against the environment of AIDS paranoia and ensuing homophobia, Cummins created films that are bold

in their politics and beautiful in their poetry. *Projecting the Body* is an intimate look at Cummins' life and career, bringing together his film and photographic work, rare home movies and snapshots as well as interviews with



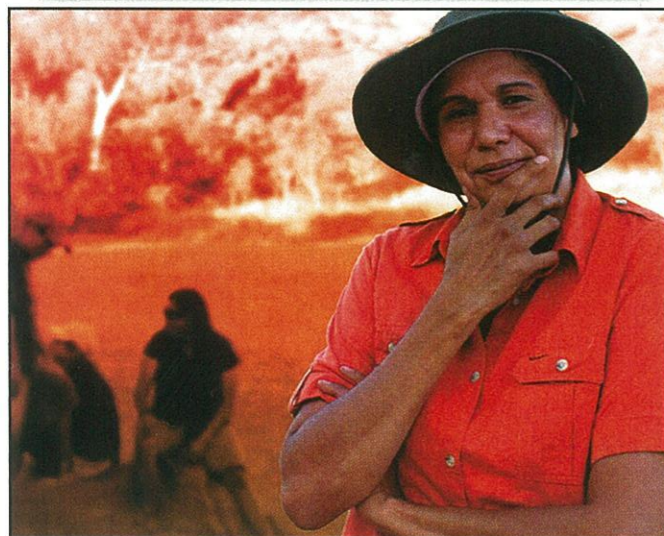
friends, family, collaborators and film commentators. An examination of Cummins' films reveals an ongoing fascination with the many meanings attached to representations of the body: the body as landscape, the body as canvas, the body in public space, and finally the body under attack. When he died in 1994 of an AIDS-related illness Cummins

left a bequest to two Sydney arts organisations to which he was a central force, Performance Space and Queer Screen. In celebration of his life and legacy, Queer Screen and Performance Space come together to present the Opening Night of queerDOC'07 in Sydney's most exciting new arts hub, CarriageWorks.

Thurs Sept 13 9pm  
Dendy Newtown

### Stephen Cummins Retrospective

*Projecting the Body* director, Walter McIntosh and producer, Sophie Harper are guest curators at this year's queerDOC festival. They will present a retrospective collection of Cummins' work, from rare experimentations and collaborations, to his more influential short films.



Screening with:

### Destiny In Alice

Directed by Sonja Dare  
Australia, 2007, 27 mins

Through the expert guidance of Destiny Attenborough, an Aboriginal mock anthropologist styled after the famed naturalist, this hilarious film glimpses into the world of women who love women in Alice Springs.

With a satirical eye, we explore the fascinating lives of some of these women, while Aboriginal lesbians provide insight on how they make, break and sustain love across racial and cultural gaps in a town like Alice.

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## the origin of species

Thurs Sept 13 7pm

Dendy Newtown

### John Waters: This Filthy World

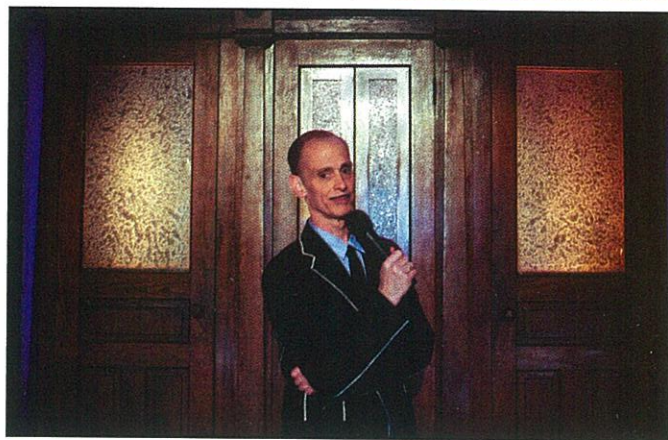
Directed by Jeff Garlin

USA, 2006, 86 mins

"I was the only kid in the audience who didn't understand why Dorothy would ever want to go back to that black and white farm and those smelly animals, when she could live with winged monkeys and magic shoes and gay lions."

The director of *Hairspray*, *Cry Baby*, *Pecker*, *Pink Flamingoes*, *Dirty Shame* and many other filth-cinema classics is an accomplished

raconteur with a very witty outlook. In *This Filthy World*, Waters leads us on a trip down memory lane, from his early hobby films of the '60s, to his greatest accomplishments in trash. He covers a diverse array of subjects ranging from the home life of Michael Jackson to what it is like to attend children's matinees alone when you look like a child molester. John Waters is as



entertaining and outrageous in person as any of his bizarre and fabulous characters. This is surely the most shamelessly funny film at queerDOC this

year. As the Edinburgh Film Festival said "You'll laugh, you'll cheer, and once or twice you'll feel extremely sick."

## intelligent design

Sun Sept 16 5pm

Dendy Newtown

### 2 Mums & A Dad

Directed by Miranda Willis

Australia, 2007, 52 mins

Fiona and her partner Kellie long to have a child and believe they have found the man to make it happen. Darren. He's gay, he works with Fiona, has an unshakable desire to be a father, and is not put off by the sight of a specimen cup. It all sounds perfect... but as the complex dynamics of this very modern family begin to take shape, things soon turn from perfect to pear-shaped. As this riveting documentary progresses towards delivery-date, we find ourselves living every complexity of parenting when there are 2 Mums & A Dad.



Screening with:

### One In 2000

Directed by Ajae Clearway

USA, 2006, 26 mins

We've now become familiar with the term 'intersex' but what does it really mean? *One in 2000* explores the lives of people who are born with an anatomy that cannot be defined by the limited standards of 'male' and 'female'. This insightful film interweaves personal accounts with disconcerting 1950s educational films - stories of infant gender reassignment surgery, with the plight of parents who are forced to make a decision about their little 'boy' or 'girl'.

A doco duo to remind us that every child is unique and innocent, no matter how they came to be here, nor what package they arrived in.



# talking helps

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# Renee Geyer

## Saturday 29th September

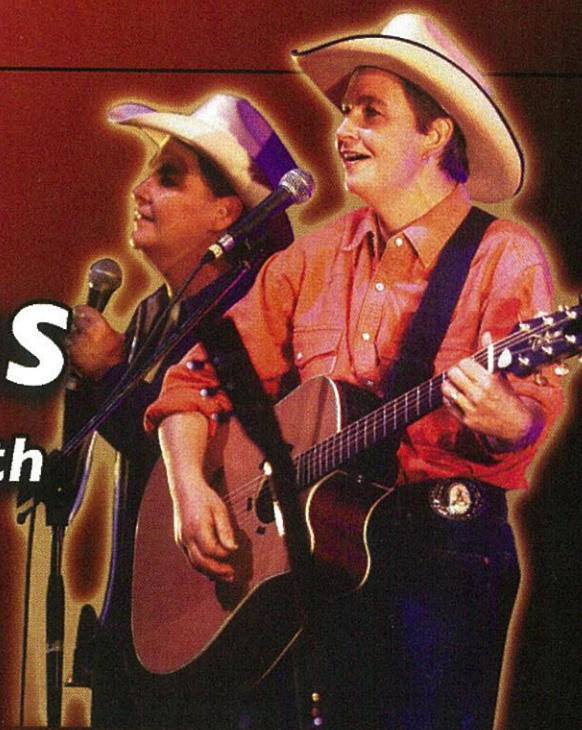


# Bony M

## Saturday 27th October

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## Friday 9th & Saturday 10th November



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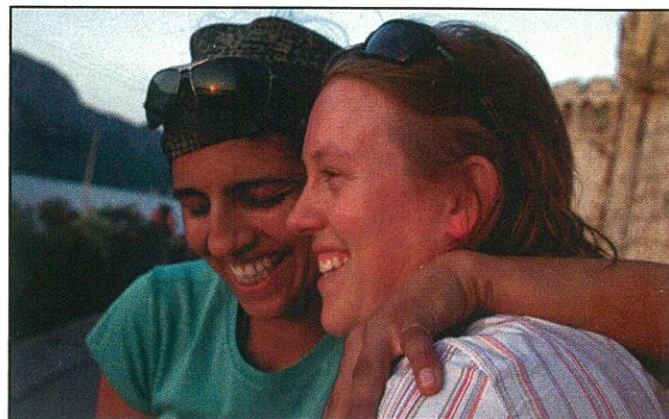
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## divine intervention

Mon Sept 17 7pm  
Dendy Newtown  
**Searching 4 Sandeep**  
Directed by Poppy Stockell  
Australia, 2007, 56 mins  
**Freeheld**  
Directed by Cynthia Wade  
USA, 2007, 38 mins

This is a session for the romantics. These two lesbian love stories pay tribute to the passion and perseverance of star-crossed lovers. Sydney filmmaker Poppy Stockell decided to film her search for love after creating a profile on a lesbian website. She was somewhat surprised to find the girl she "clicked" with was Sandeep Viridi, an

Anglo-Indian Sikh living in the British Midlands. The distance was not the only problem; Sandeep had not come out to her very conservative family. The two years that *Searching 4 Sandeep* covers are sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes joyous and sometimes fraught with the loneliness of separation, but it is always frank and thoroughly engrossing.

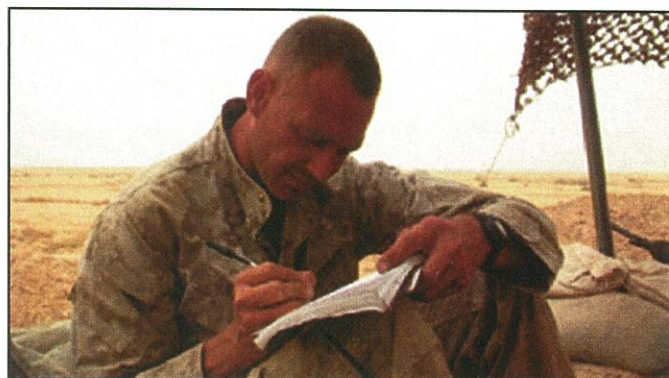


The quietly devastating *Freeheld* has won a number of awards for Best Short Documentary. This is the story of Laurel Hester, a New Jersey police officer in the final stages of terminal lung cancer fighting to leave her pension fund to her domestic

partner, Stacie. While she faces down an unthinkable heartless pension board, she finds overwhelming support in her co-workers and community, who speak up for a committed officer whose only wish is to live, and die, like anyone else.

## fight or flight

Tues Sept 18 7pm  
Dendy Newtown  
**SEMPER FI: One Marine's Journey**  
Directed by Vince DiPersio  
USA, 2007, 76 mins



Would you put your life on the line for a country that won't let you speak about your relationships? Jeff Key did, and he has plenty to say about the experience. At 6ft 4 inches and square jawed, patriotic, with impeccable southern manners, he is the perfect soldier. Born in homophobic rural Alabama and schooled in the Church of Christ, he moved from his hometown to Hollywood where he found freedom, acceptance and deep friendships. After 9/11, and at the age of 34, Jeff shocked all of his friends by joining the Marines. He fought

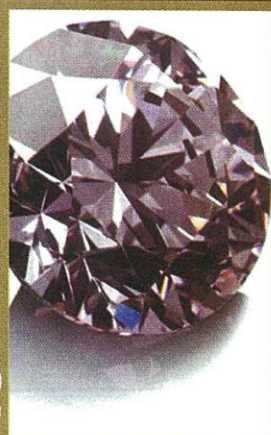
in Iraq because he believed it was the right thing to do, even though it meant returning to the closet. As he became increasingly disillusioned with the conflict, America's occupation of the Middle East and the pressures of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Jeff had to make a choice - the love of your country or the love of your fellow man. *Semper FI* has won Best Documentary at three queer film festivals. Jeff Key has written and starred in a one-man show, *The Eyes Of Babylon* about his time in Iraq and parts of this show are featured in the film.

  
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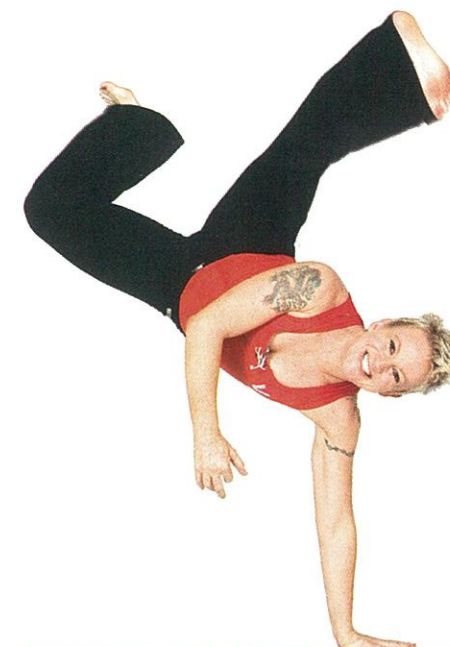


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## survival of the fittest

Tues Sept 18 9pm  
Dendy Newtown

### BEARS

Directed by Marc Klasfield  
USA, 2007, 90 mins

Or should we say 'survival of the furrriest'? Enough of the buffed and waxed Hollywood style hunks. It is certainly well past time for a documentary on the large and highly visible subculture of Bears. Director Marc Klasfield has moved from making music videos for Beyonce, Backstreet Boys and Eminem to follow seven contestants as they prepare for the International Mr. Bear contest in San Francisco. The film kicks off with John Caldera, winner

of the first contest in 1992, talking about the rise of Bear culture, then it gets down and personal with the up and coming cubs. Think 'behind the scenes at Miss Universe' but for fur-bellied gay men instead. Whether you yourself identify as a Bear, enjoy a good bear-hunt from time to time, or are just looking to dip a paw in the bear-pit, this is a fabulous introduction to one of our community's fastest growing subcultures.

Screening with

### BELLY

Directed by Dave Deveau  
Canada, 2006, 6 mins

A surprising short about body image as seen through the director's relationship to his belly.

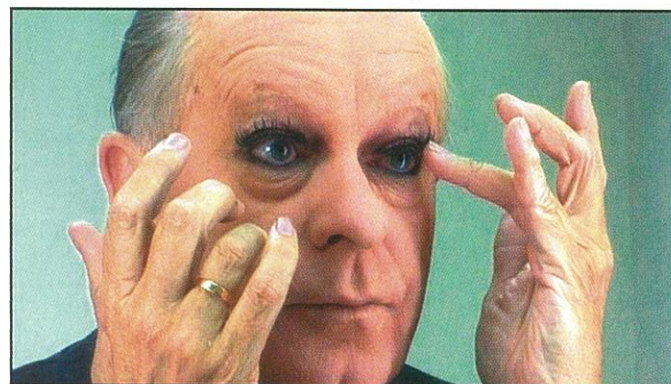


## adaptive evolution

Wed Sept 19 7pm  
Dendy Newtown

### Darling! The Pieter-Dirk Uys Story

Directed by Julian Shaw  
Australia / South Africa, 2007, 54 mins



"When I was 15 years old I saw a show that changed my life..." begins Sydney-born Julian Shaw. The show was one man, Pieter-Dirk Uys on the Opera House stage, the character, Evita Bezuidenhout. Within two years, while still completing high school, Shaw travelled to South Africa to begin making a documentary on Uys, one of the world's most controversial yet adored political satirists. The result is a truly remarkable debut. Uys permits Shaw access to his previously off-limits inner world, reviewing a life spent fighting the inhumanity of apartheid, endearing himself to celebrity status in his female

alter-ego, and dodging death threats. In the era following apartheid's fall, Uys has a new mission, travelling to schools speaking to children about HIV/AIDS through an educational cabaret act. His performances are mesmerising, revealing the tremendous spirit of a man Desmond Tutu calls a friend and Nelson Mandela names as his hero.



Presented in partnership with the AIDS Trust of Australia.

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Randwick Ritz

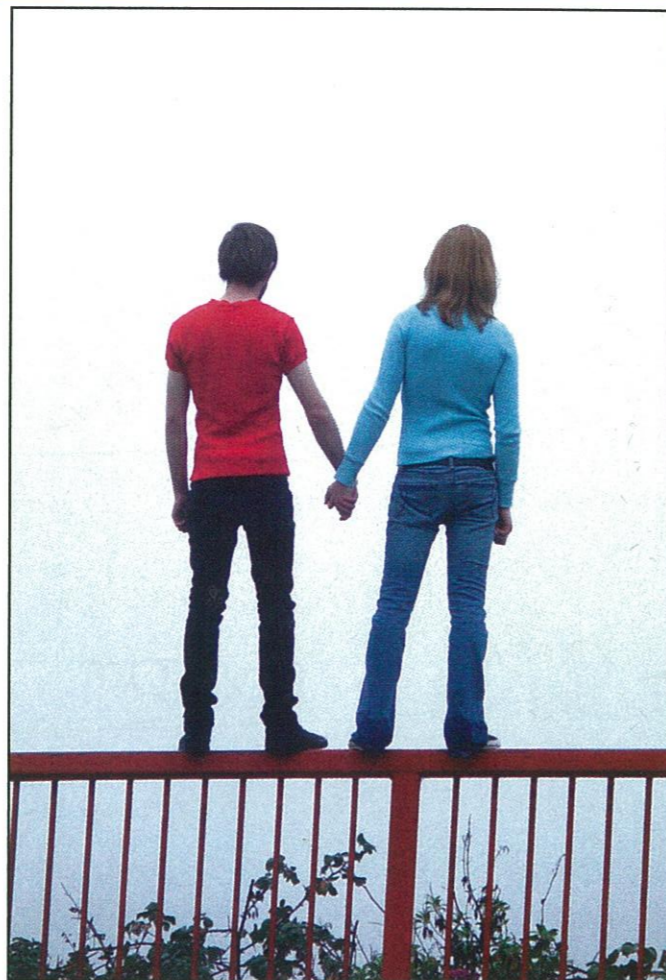
# RED WITHOUT BLUE

Dir Brooke Sebold, Benita Sills and Todd Sills  
US, 2007, 74 mins

This winner of Best Documentary awards at seven film festivals, both queer and mainstream, is an absolute must see. Mark and Alex Farley are identical twin brothers from a Christian Scientist family. They grow up with an incredible bond that is threatened when Alex takes them both out of the closet at junior high school. Through their tumultuous teens the boys are separated, and a new stress on their relationship is in play when they are reunited

two years later. Alex has decided to gender transition into Clair.

The compelling *Red Without Blue* was shot over a three-year period by filmmakers who had a close relationship to the family. This helps the film achieve an incredible intimacy that is missing from many documentaries. An unforgettable story of the connection we share with family, how it draws us together, and can tear us apart. See it with a sibling.



## Where are they now?

Ever seen a great doco and wondered afterwards, "well what happened next?!" Did the lovers make up or split

up? Did the hero continue to triumph? Did the happy ending turn sour? Every morning throughout

queerDOC, Lex and David will be giving you a "where are they now?" update on the subject(s) of the previous

night's documentary. You can find the updates on our myspace blog at: [www.myspace.com/queerscreen](http://www.myspace.com/queerscreen)

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## Bookings:

**Online:** [www.queerscreen.com.au](http://www.queerscreen.com.au)

**Phone:** 1300 306 776

Tickets to any session at Dendy Newtown can be purchased from the box office prior to the event.

## Tickets:

**Standard Sessions:** \$15.50

Full / \$13.50 Conc / \$11.50

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**Opening Night:** \$20 Full /

\$15 QS Member

A booking fee of \$1.50 applies per ticket for online and phone purchases.

Concessions are available to Queer Screen members, Pension/Health Care cardholders and full-time students. ID is required.

Please note Customs and Film Classification conditions prohibit the admittance of people under the age of 18 to festival sessions, except where otherwise stated.

For full booking details and conditions visit [www.queerscreen.com.au](http://www.queerscreen.com.au)

## Venues:

### CarriageWorks.

245 Wilson Street, Eveleigh  
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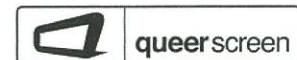
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Standard membership starts from \$44, with a concession option available. Premium and Deluxe memberships include ticket packages to our festivals and invitations to special functions throughout the year.

Membership is FREE to anyone under 26, so keep your ticket price down and sign up today!

More information and buying options are available at [www.queerscreen.com.au](http://www.queerscreen.com.au)

## Credits:



### For Queer Screen

Festival Director: Lex Lindsay  
Programmer: David Pearce  
Programming Assistance: Megan Carrigy  
Administrator: Jane Grimley  
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Trailers and Design: Jeremy Stewart  
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Sebastian Rice (Vice President), Robert Judd (Treasurer), Jane Becker (Secretary), Ken Crouch, Lisa George, Su Goldfish, Jeff Rosenthal, Victoria Treole, Louise Wadley.

Our deepest thanks to the wonderful team of volunteers who help make this festival happen.

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Darlinghurst, 1300

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