february 15-march 1



# mardi gras film festival

Driven by Volkswagen



# version 14.0



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# version 14.0 upgrade now



#### Welcome to the latest version of the Mardi

Gras Film Festival. Not just the premiere queer film event of the Southern Hemisphere, not just a celluloid celebration of our lives and lifestyles, not just a 15 day banquet of bourgeoning talent, but the time of year we come together in united display of our power for social change. In proof that the lens is mightier than the sword, the storytellers of our community give us hope, courage and grace to stand up and demand progress. For too long we queers have been treated as sub-human: under-represented and unequal under the law. Around the globe there are queer individuals in desperate need of a human rights download. While we in Australia fight for partnership recognition, parenting rights, federal entitlements and safety on our streets, we observe worldwide discrimination, torture and imprisonment on the grounds of sexuality. It is the seventh year of a new millennium and we request that all queers everywhere are restored the freedom and respect they are worthy of. Upgrade Us Now!

The Mardi Gras Film Festival offers you a glimpse of what features this upgrade will include. Review your preferences with our diverse mix of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and heteroflexible titles. With 75 sessions including over 200 films, whatever your set-up we've got compatibility. Get connected at our major events: My Queer Career and Opening Night Party, Queer Kino and the Sydney premiere of Infamous at the Randwick Ritz. Go global with our Chinese New Year sessions, a host of new features from South East Asia, a gender-bending Bollywood musical, Icelandic soccer jocks, Mexican heartthrobs, and French femme fatales. Service your local area network with three sessions of shorts by emerging Australian filmmakers. Or get unwired and inspired with an assortment of hilarious and twisted takes on classic straight storylines.

Mardi Gras Film Festival version 14.0 is available now. Sign on for automatic updates at **www.queerscreen. com.au**. Connect yourself to a world of queer experience. Take to the cinemas and take to the streets.

# from the presidents



It's that time of year again when our queer world, articulated in all its complexity on film and in pixels, will be unleashed across Sydney screens. As we open our hearts and minds to what our queer artists and filmmakers have to offer us, we fuel our determination to express gay, lesbian, transgender and queer experience. This festival's very existence confronts homophobic attempts to constrain our lives, complicates the commercial trivialisation of queer identity and challenges political indifference to our relationships.

This has been a year of trying to maintain Queer Screen's participation in culture and community all year round on threadbare budgets. We couldn't have even contemplated this festival without the heart-warming response to our donations plea in mid 2006. Thank you.

There are many others to thank, too. For the first time we are being driven by Volkswagen, our principal sponsor. Our good friends at the Goethe Institute greatly assisted in co-curating the German Retrospective. The City of Sydney has sponsored My Queer Career, sharing our vision to provide opportunities and support for local queer filmmakers. This year My Queer Career will open the festival at the beautiful City Recital Hall at Angel place. Please join us for an elegant and thrilling evening.

Look out from January for our posters in JC Decaux ad spaces across the city. Their support is much appreciated.

Most of all we thank our hardworking staff who give energy way beyond reasonable expectations to keep Queer Screen running. Thanks to the board who bring their commitment and expertise to the organisation and to our loyal, indispensable volunteers. To our members and audiences, we hope you enjoy Mardi Gras Film Festival Version 14.0. – see you in the cinema!

Rob Judd and Su Goldfish The presidents

# from sydney's lord mayor



#### For over one hundred years audiences have sat in darkened cinemas watching their lives and dreams play out on the screen.

The gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities so often marginalised and invisible have much to celebrate when they become visible, literally, on the big screen.

The Mardi Gras Film Festival presents many aspects of queer culture. The films, as diverse in selection as the queer community itself, should not only entertain but create much lively debate and dialogue.

I congratulate Queer Screen on this 14th Mardi Gras Film Festival and wish you the opportunity to find your own moments of reflection, joy and celebration throughout the Festival.

Clover Moore MP Lord Mayor of Sydney and Member for Bligh

#### Log in, sign on, stand up, enjoy!



tear jerker the dramas of the festival, these films go deep and touch the heart



reel romance the love stories, unrequited or domestic bliss, films for the romantic soul





guts and gore be warned these films are not for the faint hearted: nail biting violence and blood shed



steamy scenes get stimulated by the simulatated, nudity, sex scene and damn fine bods



good giggles you'll be in stitches with these queer comedies



**15 years and over most welcome** all other festival session are restricted to 18+

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LOND





# thursday february 15

#### **OPENING NIGHT**

7.30pm City Recital Hall, Angel Place In 2007 the Mardi Gras Film Festival

continues the tradition of opening with an all-local line-up. Queer Screen is proud to present the finalists and award winners of the My Queer Career competition. Since



beginning the competition in 1993 we have seen a vast range of short films from all over Australia and New Zealand, and this year's eclectic syndicate is no different. The finalists delve into the subconscious, the homeland and the painfully conscious, they portray the past and how far we have or haven't come, they present inner beauty and the struggle to externalise it. They animate a troubled relationship and explore our predilections for certain foods, styles and affections before saying a sad farewell to an absent love. The judges were impressed with the large number of entries in this years comp and have curated the finest for this gala event. Following the films and award ceremony the audience is invited to join Queer Screen, the filmmakers and judges for our opening night party in the stunning City Recital Hall.

#### The Films

Australian Tails, Australia, 7 min, dir. Sarah Spillane Filled With Water, Australia, 5 min, dir. Elka Kerkhofs Mizu, Australia, 6 min. dir. Peter Humble The Manual, Australia, 15 min, dir. Sarah Spillane Salt, New Zealand, 3 min, dir. Campbell Farguhar My Malaysian Trip, Australia, 5 min, dir. Walter Lee Seeya Rach, Australia, 7 min, dir. Pearl Tan Look Sharp, Australia, 9 min, dir. Amy Gebhardt In The Ladies Lounge, Australia, 12 min, dir. Fadia Abboud Prada Handbag, Australia, 20 min, dir. Stuart Vauvert

#### The Judges

Margaret Pomeranz, beloved Australian film critic and co-host of ABC's At The Movies Helen Bowden, Film Producer whose title's include Girl in a Mirror and Soft Fruit Anton Enus, award winning journalist and reporter and the anchor of SBS World News Tonight. Ashley Luke, senior vice-president, development

and acquisitions for Fortissimo Films.

This independent panel gathered in a director's suite at Spectrum Films to view the 2007 entries and select the winners of each award category. A very vocal and jovial jury, they were most impressed with the quality and diversity of this year's finalists. You will also see the My Queer Career runners-up in the Celluloid Salon session, where the judges' most highly commended entries will screen.

#### The Awards

Best Film The all-round top film will receive a cash grant from the Stephen Cummins Trust and inclusion in the finals of the Iris Prize, the first international competition for queer short films with a grand prize worth 25,000 pounds. Queer Portrayal Sponsored by Spectrum Films, Panavision and Soundfirm. This award goes to the most unique, compelling and insightful representation of queer life or queer perspective. The collection of film equipment and facilities in this prize will provide the foundation for the next short film by this 'most queer' filmmaker. Production Award Demonstrating a skilled and mature command of the technical elements of filmmaking, this award provides the recipient with their own technology to take their craft even further. Emerging Talent Sponsored by Fortissimo Films, IF Magazine and Metro Screen. Awarded to a filmmaker showing great promise for a career in the industry, Fortissimo Films will meet with the winner and discuss project and professional development opportunities.

SBS Award As selected by SBS TV, this film will be purchased for screening on SOS (shorts on screen). Audience Award Voted and awarded on the night by you. The winner of this award will travel to Darwin to attend the My Queer Career screening at Deckchair Cinema followed by a four day Northern Territory tour including a sunset cruise courtesy of Tourism NT.

# festival calendar

FILM	VENUE	FEB 15	FEB 16	<b>FEB 17</b>	FEB 18	FEB 19	FEB 20	FEB 21	FEB 22	FEB 23	FEB 24	FEB 25	FEB 26	<b>FEB 27</b>	FEB 28	M
Another Gay Movie	Academy			9.30pm									9.30pm			T
Backstage	Academy						6.30pm									
Backstage	Dendy										5.00pm					
Best Of Britain	Academy	21										5.20pm				
Between The Lines	Dendy					9.00pm										
Boy Culture	Academy		9.30pm										7.30pm			
Boy I Am	Dendy						7.00pm									
Boy's Love	Academy			7.30pm												
Boys Will Be Boys	Academy			5.20pm												
Broken Sky	Academy										9.30pm					
Celluloid Salon	Academy										5.20pm					
Colma: The Musical	Academy	5			5.20pm											
Coming Out	Chauvel														7.00pm	
Cut Sleeve Boys	Academy									7.30pm				9.30pm		1
Dead Boyz Don't Scream	Academy				7.30pm											
The Devil Wears Levis	Academy				9.30pm											1
Dying Gaul	Academy						7.30pm									
Eating Out 2	Academy		7.30pm											7.30pm		+
Electro Shock	Academy					6.30pm						1		ricopin	-	-
Eleven Men Out	Academy	3						7.30pm								1
Fabulous!	Academy			3:00pm												1
Far From Sunset Blvd	Academy							9.30pm							-	-
Fat Girls	Academy	7						0.00pm			7.30pm					-
Fox & His Friends	Chauvel	1						7.00pm			7.00µm	-				-
Fun In Boys Shorts	Academy	-				7.30pm		7.00pm							-	-
Fun In Girls Shorts	Academy					7.50pm					1.000	2:00pm				-
Grimm Love	Academy								9.30pm		-	2.000111			-	-
The Gymnast	Academy			6.30pm					3.30pm							-
The Gymnast	Dendy			0.50pm						7.00pm						-
I Can See Queerly Now	Dendy									7.00011		5:00pm				-
Imaginary Girls Shorts	Academy			2:00pm				19102-00				5.00pm				-
Infamous	Ritz		-	2.00011		-						-				0.0
The King & The Clown	Dendy							9.00pm								8:0
Last Second	Dendy				122200 - 00			3.00µm					0.00.000	-		-
Looking For Cheyenne	Academy											6.2000	9.00pm			-
Looking For Cheyenne	Dendy											6.30pm		7.00		-
Love Sick	Academy							6.30pm						7.00pm		-
Loving Annabelle	Academy	-	6.30pm					0.50pm								-
Loving Annabelle	Dendy		0.30011				9.00pm									-
Madame X	Chauvel															-
Maybe, Maybe Not	Chauvel	-					7.00pm						7.00			-
Mom	Dendy							7.00mm					7.00pm			-
Mom	Academy							7.00pm	-	C 20						-
My Queer Career	City Recital	7.2000								6.30pm						-
		7.30pm			6.20mm											-
Nina's Heavenly Delights	Academy	-			6.30pm							0.00				-
No Regret Open Cam	Academy								7 20			9.30pm				-
Out Im Kino	Academy Chauvel		7.000						7.30pm							-
Paper Dolls		-	7.00pm											0.00		-
Paper Dolls Poltergay	Dendy Academy						9.30pm							9.00pm		-
							9.30pm					0.00				-
Queer Duck Red Doors	Academy Dendy	2				7.00						3:00pm				-
Red Doors						7.00pm			6.00-							-
Shabnam Mousi	Academy Academy	5							6.30pm				0.00.			-
				C 20									6.30pm			
Silent Cinema	Chauvel			6.30pm											7.00	-
Stray Cats	Dendy												7.00		7.00pm	-
Summer Heat	Dendy	2					-				0.00		7.00pm			-
Tough Chicks	Academy								7.00		2:00pm					-
Triple X Selects	Dendy	-			0.00				7.00pm							-
Twilight Dancers	Academy				3:00pm											
Vacationland	Academy													6.30pm		
Vampyros Lesbos	Academy										6.30pm					
Virgin Machine	Chauvel													7.00pm	5	
The Way We Write	Academy									9.30pm						
	Academy					9.30pm										
While You Are Here Whole New Thing	Academy	-									3:00pm					

#### Venues

#### **City Recital Hall**

Angel Place, Sydney Box office hours: 9am-5pm Mon-Fri Wheelchair access provided Palace Academy Twin 3a Oxford St, Paddington Box office hours: 12pm-9pm daily Wheelchair access not provided

#### Dendy Newtown

261 King St, Newtown Box office hours: 11am-9pm daily Wheelchair access provided

#### **Chauvel Cinemas**

Paddington Town Hall Cnr Oxford St & Oatley Rd, Paddington Box office hours: 11am-9pm Wheelchair access provided

#### **Randwick Ritz**

39-47 St Pauls St, Randwick Box office hours: 10am-10pm daily Wheelchair access provided

### Performance Space opens at its new home – CarriageWorks – with three compelling events.



#### NEVER BEEN THIS FAR AWAY FROM HOME

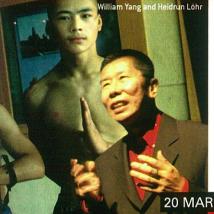
#### MARTIN DEL AMO

"Martin del Amo's intelligent and gripping solos live in the memory long after the performance." DEBORAH JONES DANCE AUSTRALIA FEB/MARCH 06

In his new solo show, choreographer/performer Martin del Amo embarks on a journey that charts his fascination with the unknown. Darkly funny and often surreal, del Amo conjures a world in which the exhilaration of leaving behind the familiar is contrasted with the terrifying yet tantalizing prospect of the new.

#### 7-17 MAR | WED-SAT | 8PM | \$25/\$15

John Sane



#### **CHINA**

WILLIAM YANG

"Yang is the consummate conversationalist, unassuming and congenial, as though talking in the intimacy of his lounge room." THE CANBERRA TIMES

Photographer-storyteller William Yang takes us from the streets of Beijing, where electronics superstores jostle with echoes of the Cultural Revolution and the Ming Dynasty, to the sacred mountain Huang Shan, a must-climb for every Chinese pilgrim-tourist.

Yang's wryly sensitive perspective, his eye for detail, and his arresting images make for an unforgettable theatrical experience.

PRODUCED BY Performing Lines

#### 20 MAR PREVIEW I 21-24 MAR I WED-SAT 8PM I SAT MATINEE 5PM I \$30/\$20

#### acrobat

#### SMALLER, POORER, CHEAPER

"smaller poorer cheaper is a terrific and tightly wrapped show that shocks, provokes and amuses. Acrobat is an exceptional troupe, layering physical skills with multiple implications playing with our expectations and puncturing our complacency." THE AGE

acrobat combine refined routines and sounds with a simple, makeshift aesthetic and a minimum of theatrical overlay. Pure, raw acrobatics are balanced with thought provoking moments, providing a window into their idiosyncratic view of the world. PRODUCED BY Marguerite Pepper.

#### 28 MAR-1 APR | WED-SAT 8PM | SUN 5PM | \$30/\$20

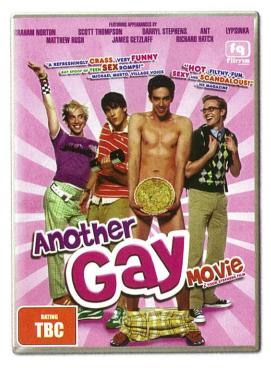
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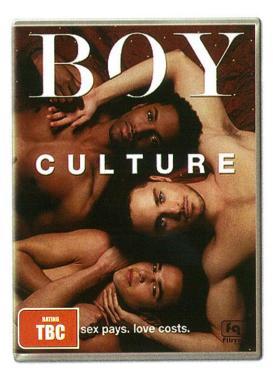
Full program released February 2007. If you'd like to receive a copy of our program contact us on 02 9698 7235 Performance Space at CarriageWorks I 245 Wilson Street I Eveleigh NSW 2015 I performancespace.com.au

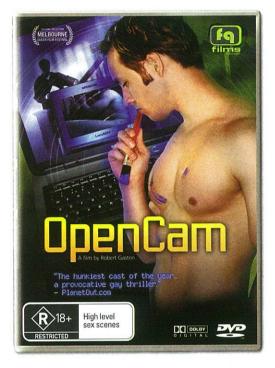
#### Book at www.moshtix.com.au, all moshtix outlets or phone (02) 9209 4614

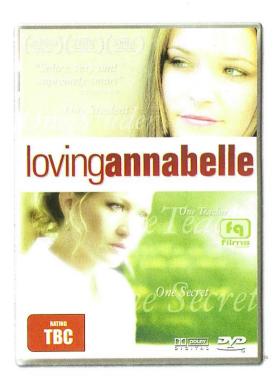
# "Life, Love, Sex and Cinema."

#### COMING SOON TO DVD -





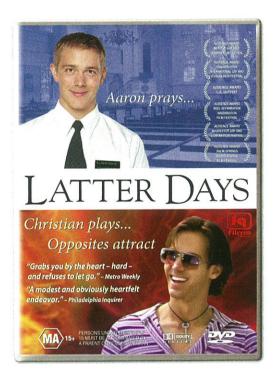


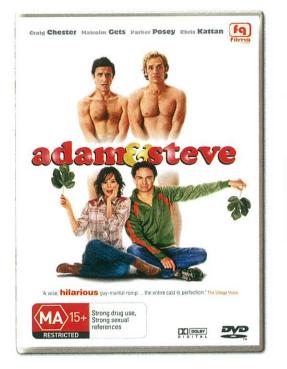


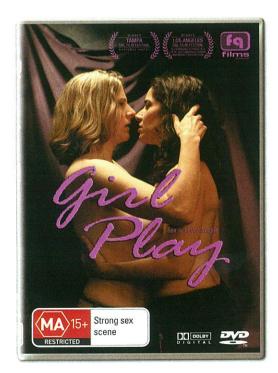
### "FQ Films. Australia's leading GLBT Film Label."

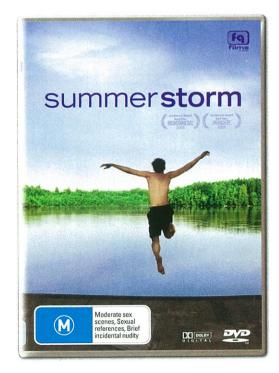


OUT NOW ON DVD -









Available to rent or buy on DVD

"FQ Films. Australia's leading GLBT Film Label."

# queer kino: a history of german queer cinema

Presented in partnership with the Goethe Institut and Chauvel Cinema, this 'festival within a festival' presents a retrospective of pivotal queer filmmaking from Germany. From a silent feature now newly restored and hailed as the first gay-themed film to the film that premiered the night the Berlin Wall fell, this Kino Kabaret brings the history of one of the most influential countries of the 20th century to life through queer eyes.

#### **Friday February 16** 7pm Chauvel Cinema **Out Im Kino**

Germany 105 mins. Dir. Manuela Kay & Axel Schock. Presented by Axel Schock

From the first gay feature ever made, Different From The Others, through to the more confident portrayals in modern films, journalist and writer Axel Schock presents the Australian premiere of Out Im Kino, an absorbing approach to the story of queer cinema. In chronicling nearly 100 years of cliches and climaxes on the big screen, Axel will examine the changing representation and visibility of gay, lesbian and transgender characters on the silver screen. The presentation will look at Hollywood, early experimental work, new queer cinema and modern representation of queer images.

#### **GERMAN SILENT CINEMA**

Both silent films will be presented with live accompaniment

#### Saturday February 17 6.30pm Chauvel Cinema

#### **Different From The Others**

(Anders Als Die Anderen) Germany 1919, 50 mins. Dir. Richard Oswald

Australian premiere. Considered by many historians to be the first gay feature, Different From The Others was banned a few years after it was released and all prints were considered destroyed by the Nazis until a version was found in the Ukraine in 1976. A famous pianist falls in love with one of his students and the young man moves in with him. But domestic bliss takes a turn when a villain tries to blackmail them.

#### Michael

#### Germany, 1924, 79 mins. Dir. Carl Dreyer

Zoret, an ageing artist, is driven to despair and grieves over the loss of his young male model to Princess Zamikoff in Michael. Reportedly based on the life of Auguste Rodin, film master Carl Theodor Dreyer's Michael is a mature and visually elegant period romance decades ahead of its time. A film of exquisite artistry, Michael is both elaborately theatrical and remarkably restrained. Dreyer elicits vivid and passionate performances from his adroit cast.

#### **Tuesday February 20** 7pm Chauvel Cinema

#### Madame X: An Absolute Ruler



Madame X, the irresistibly cruel and uncrowned pirate ruler of the China Seas, lures women away from their ordinary lives to gather aboard the ship Orlando for adventures at sea. On board the flags of attack, leather, weapons, lesbian love and death are raised with a beauty that dispenses with a total domination of the viewer's gaze. This cult classic shows not a trace of fearfulness as it renders an outlandish utopia full of ritualised power games among women, garnished by outrageous costumes. Amongst the eclectic women aboard, Yvonne Rainer plays an artist, while underground icon Tabea Blumenschein plays both the spike-fisted dominatrix queen and the ship's leather-clad figurehead. - German with English subtitles

#### Wednesday February 21 **7pm Chauvel Cinema Fox and His Friends**

(Faustrecht der Freiheit) Germany 1975, 117 mins Dir. Rainer Werner Fassbinder

Franz "Fox" Biberkopf (in a rare starring

role for Fassbinder,) is a gay carnival worker whose boyfriend is hauled off to prison in the opening scene. As portrayed perfectly by Fassbinder, Fox is streetsmart yet innocent, sexy yet shy. Everything changes when he wins a fortune in the lottery, and finds himself among a circle of scheming "friends" including Eugen Theiss, his charming new lover, and Eugen's parents, who fleece Fox out of his winnings for the "noble" purpose of saving their bankrupt company. Fox and His Friends is one of Fassbinder's best films, a powerful work, dealing with some of Fassbinder's central themes - the search for love and the manipulation that can occur in any sexual relationship. - German with English subtitles

#### **Monday February 26** 7pm Chauvel Cinema **Maybe Maybe Not**

(Der Bewegte Mann) Germany 1994 93 mins Dir. Sönke Wortmann

Axel, a handsome young guy is caught

in the act with another woman by girlfriend Doro. She guits the relationship and throws him out of her apartment. Seeking for a new home, Axel is introduced to Walter, a homosexual, who finds Axel quite attractive. Walter takes Axel to a gay party where they meet Norbert, who has a big apartment and is willing to let Axel stay for a while because he thinks he can seduce him. Meanwhile, Doro finds out that she is pregnant and tries to get Axel back, not knowing that he lives among homosexuals now. - German with English subtitles

#### **Tuesday February 27 7pm Chauvel Cinema Virgin Machine**

(Die Jungfrauenmaschine) Germany 1988 84 mins video Dir. Monika Treut

Dorothee, a would-be writer and journalist,

leaves Germany for the Oz of San Francisco, searching for her long-lost mother and a cure for the malady of love. Installed in the Tenderloin, she peeps in on neighbours' bizarre sex rituals as well as sightseeing of the more traditional kind. Then encounters with male impersonator Ramona, charming Hungarian bohemian Dominique, and Susie Sexpert, barker for an all-girl strip show, lead to exploratory adventures of self-discovery and fun. When Dorothy surfaces like a dazzled tourist on the wilder shores of the city's lesbian community, she has discovered her true sexuality and left some illusions behind. - German & English with English subtitles

Wednesday February 28 **7pm Chauvel Cinema Coming Out** 

Germany 1989 110 mins Dir. Heiner Carow

Hailed as the first and only East German gay film, Coming Out premiered on the very

day the Berlin Wall came down. As a boy, Philip was strongly attracted to his best friend, but he's put that behind him in order to live within the "norm." He meets shy girl Tania who falls hard for him and soon the genuinely loving couple is sharing a flat. But Phillip can't repress his passionate desire for a young man he meets in a concert queue. As he begins to investigate the gay underground life of the city he finds there are some things you can't hide from. - German with English subtitles







## friday february 16

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Loving Annabelle

US 2006 77 mins video Dir. Katherine Brooks





Inspired by the 1930s German classic *Madchen in Uniform*, the sultry *Loving Annabelle* tells the controversial story of Simone (Diane Gaidry), a prized young poetry teacher at a tight-lipped Catholic girls boarding school whose passion is unlocked by a rebellious new student. The feisty young Annabelle (Erin Kelly), the wild daughter of a US senator, comes to the school after a string of expulsions from all of the top posh private schools in the country. Having explicitly understood the heavy sexual innuendo of a prescribed e. e. cummings poem, she pursues Simone outright, openly propositioning her after class. But an affair could cost Simone everything. Crushes on high school English teachers are an age-old phenomenon, especially when it comes to lesbian awakenings, but *Loving Annabelle* turns the tables. When Simone and Annabelle are the only two left on campus during the school holidays the suspense builds towards an ending you might not see coming.

"The torment of forbidden love has never looked as good as it does in Loving Annabelle. Its lush cinematography, strong acting and erotic charge will satisfy regardless of whether you think the lovers deserve ruination or redemption." – After Ellen.com

#### OUEER KINO (FULL DETAILS PAGE 8) 7pm Chauvel Cinema

Out Im Kino, Germany 105 mins Manuela Kay & Axel Schock. Presented by Axel Schock



From the first gay feature ever made, *Different From The Others*,

through to the more confident portrayals in modern films, journalist and writer Axel Schock presents the Australian premiere of *Out Im Kino*, an absorbing approach to the story of queer cinema. In chronicling nearly 100 years of cliches and climaxes on the big screen, Axel will examine the changing representation and visibility of gay, lesbian and transgender characters on the silver screen. The presentation will look at Hollywood, early experimental work, new queer cinema and modern representation of queer images.

#### 7.30pm Academy Twin Eating Out 2: Sloppy Seconds

US 2006 80 mins video Dir. Phillip Bartell





Advertised as the first ever American gay movie sequel, *Eating Out 2: Sloppy Seconds* delivers all the sex, fun and laughs of the original with an extra dollop of raunchiness thrown in. How far would you go to get the person of your dreams? In *Eating Out*, Kyle (Jim Verraros) convinced his straight roommate to pretend to be gay to get the girl. Now, with the help of Gwen (Emily Brooke Hands) and Tiffani (Rebekah Kochan), Kyle pretends to be heterosexual to land Troy (Marco Dapper), the new guy – and nude model – in town, but instead ends up a member of the campus ex-gay support group and gets a girlfriend. Kyle's ex boyfriend, Marc (Brett Chukerman), is horrified at the plan and decides to pursue the confused Troy with his own tactic – being his out gay self. Who will win him first? In the boy eat boy, boy eat girl world of *Eating Out 2: Sloppy Seconds* stakes get raised, sexual boundaries are obliterated, and the answer is never what you expect.

"Eating Out is uplifting, funny, and a Viagra induced hardon of a film!" – Simon Johnson, Puffta Magazine (UK)

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin Boy Culture

UK 2006 88 mins video Dir. Q. Allan Brocka





Hunky rent boy X (Derek Magyar) prefers to be available to select clients but is up for anything that pays. He is secretly in love and lust for his dreamboat roommate Andrew (Darryl Stephens), a guy with only one foot out of the closet. This household also has a sexually precocious twink, Joey who desires X with a passion. X meets a sophisticated older client, Gregory who has more on his mind than just X's stud services. A comedy of errors with a wicked script, spot-on performances and an extremely handsome cast make Q. Allan Brocka's *Boy Culture* one of this year's highlights. Q. Allan Brocka also directed the original *Eating Out* and co-wrote the sequel.

"It wouldn't be a gay film festival without at least one hustler film. Boy Culture is the best gay hustler film since "My Own Private Idaho" and sure to be a favorite of many festival goers." – Out Films

### per-ver-sion

# n./ A practice or act, especially one that is sexual in nature, considered abnormal or deviant.

Twisted tales, sick psychos, sexual freaks and kooky creeps... you ain't seen nothin' yet. The first theme of the festival reflects upon the negative light in which our community has too often been cast. The perverted, the corrupted, the sexually crazed. Even now as we advance through the 21st Century, queer individuals are treated as deviant and dangerous in most corners of the world. In defiance of this slur against our humanity, the perversion program lights back with some serious examples of wicked and warped behavior. Celebrating diversity, absurdity, criminality, the unbelievable and the unimaginable. These films will open your eyes, blow you mind, turn you on and maybe turn your stomach.

#### perversion highlights

Loving Annabelle	February 16 + 20
Boy's Love	February 17
The Dying Gaul	February 20
Madame X: An Absolute Ruler	February 20
Love Sick	February 21
Open Cam	February 22
Grimm Love	February 22
Triple X Selects	February 22
The Devil Wears Levis	February 25
Virgin Machine	February 27

# saturday february 17

#### 2pm Academy Twin Imaginary Girls Shorts



Scaling the heights of the imagination, these exquisite shorts bring to life strange

and sexy fantasies. From sci-fi to supernatural, these shorts remind us how much our hot sexuality is all in our heads. A shy and quiet woman discovers something beyond her wildest supermarket dreams in *Today's Specials*. In a post-apocalyptic world, a woman risks everything to make contact with the *Outside*. In *Red Velvet Girls*, coming of age means growing fangs and bucking family tradition for one ripening young vampire. A little girl challenges the family fashion codes in *Coif. Ahora Serás Castigada* serves up Spanish household fantasies with the maid and her mistress. *Titina* travels into a succession of dreams, subtitled in French and after a game of *Hopscotch*, a young tomboy witnesses something she has never seen before.

AHORA SERAS CASTIGADA, Spain 2006 12 mins. Dir. Monica Demes. AIRPLANES, US 2006 8 mins. Dir. Jen Heck. COIF, 2004 US 6 mins. Dir. Melanie McGraw. HOPSCOTCH, Canada 2004 4 mins. Dir. Jen Markowitz. OUTSIDE, US 2006 22 mins. Dir. Jenn Kao. RED VELVET GIRLS. Canada 2005 15 mins. Dir. Claudia Molina. TITINA, France 2004 25 mins. Dir. Sylvie Cachin. TODAY'S SPECIALS, Italy 2005 7 mins. Dir. Gianni Gatti.

#### 3pm Academy Twin Fabulous! The Story Of Queer Cinema



US 2006 82 mins video Dir. Lisa Ades & Lesli Klainberg



Concentrating on American cinema from 1960 onwards, *Fabulous* traces the coming out of queer cinema through film clips and interviews with filmmakers and commentators. *Fabulous* takes us back to a time when rather tame films like *Making Love* and *Personal Best* made headlines. Earlier groundbreaking films such as Jack Smith's *Flaming Creatures* (1961) and Kenneth Anger's *Fireworks* (1947) were seen as paving the way for the New Queer Cinema that came from directors such as Gus Van Sant, Rose Troche, Todd Haynes and others in the 1990s. You are sure to see clips from many of your favourites and more in this personal history of queer cinema.

#### 5.20pm Academy Twin Boys Will Be Boys





Queering it up in the classroom, the school halls and backyards, this gorgeous array

of international offerings takes on masculinity at a rather young and tender age. Sometimes *Being A Boy* means taking a chance with your look against the odds. Meet *The Saddest Boy in the World*, whose perverse take makes ice-cream eaters two-step in time on a suburban lawn. *Davy & Stu* begin to accept their relationship has taken on new dimensions. *David* finds enchanting ways to get what he wants from a man at the bus stop when speaking to him is not an option. One *Summer* two boys hang out and start to reveal themselves. *Sissy Frenchfry* proves the ultimate contender when it comes to leading students down the straight and narrow.

DAVID Mexico 15 mins. Dir. Roberto Fiesco. DAVY & STU US 2006 13 mins. Dir. Soman Chainani. BEING A BOY Sweden 2005 10 mins. Dir. Mia Olsson. THE SADDEST BOY IN THE WORLD Canada 2006 14 mins. Dir. Jamie Travis. SISSY FRENCHFRY US 2005 28 mins. Dir. J.C. Olivia. SUMMER UK 2006 9 mins. Dir. Hong Khao.

#### OUEER KINO (FULL DETAILS PAGE 8) 6.30pm Chauvel Cinema SILENT CINEMA

**Different From The Others**, (Anders Als Die Anderen) Germany 1919, 50 mins. Dir. Richard Oswald

Michael, Germany, 1924, 79 mins. Dir. Carl Dreyer

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin The Gymnast

US 2006 96 min video Dir. Ned Farr





Once an Olympic gymnast at the top of her game, Jane Hawkins (Dreya Weber, *Lovely and Amazing*) sustained a career-ending injury and is now a disciplined massage therapist in her 40s. She is dedicated but running herself into the ground, slowly disappearing in a passionless marriage. A chance meeting sets her in a new direction and she discovers the aerial trapeze. Suddenly, she's doing something she loves again and is a joy to watch as she begins to master the power and beauty of her new art form. She meets Serena (Addie Yungmee), a sharp-witted, pierced and tattooed dancer with a wicked sense of humour, the adopted Korean daughter of elderly Jewish parents. The two begin preparations for a stunning *Cirque de Soliel*-esque acrobatic act as the gravitational pull between them becomes stronge than their gorgeous, sensuous choreography. *The Gymnast* skilfully explores the emotional intensity that unfolds in this space between physicality and sexuality.

"The Gymnast is a rare gem of a film. Scripter and director Ned Farr, making his feature debut, strikes a perfect balance in depicting both the beauty and the strength of his characters, as well as the vulnerability and yearning behind their perfectly honed physiques." – Natalie Peterson, Frameline

#### 7.30 Academy Twin Boys Love

Japan, 2006 85 mins video Saito Takumi, Kotani Yoshikazu





A pretty, straight magazine editor interviews a hot new model (Noel) who is still at high school. Noel is very sure of himself, with a new man in bed every night. He tries to seduce the editor but is surprised to be rebuffed. Not to be deterred, Noel arranges for the editor to come to his apartment, where he tries again – add in some additional complications and you have a fine example of a Yaoi tale. Unlike some soft focus gay romances from Asia, these men are very physical and often strongly aggressive. One copes with his tensions and repressed desires by boxing, while the other works out with regular swimming sessions. The Yaoi genre is very popular in print and has a strong focus on often explicit homosexual relationships. The tales usually have a *seme* (attacker) and a *uke* (receiver), terms that originate in martial arts. *Boys Love*, with two major protagonists who are the attacker at different times, has a more masculine slant than many Yaoi tales and is one of the few live action films in the genre. – *Japanese with English subtitles* 

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin Another Gay Movie

US 2006 90 mins video Dir. Todd Stephens





The most outrageous gay comedy of the year is filled to the brim with sex romance and nudity in a very queer *American Pie*. A group of graduating gay high-school boys make a pledge to lose their virginity – specifically, ass virginity – before college begins. These very different guys all take different routes to fulfilling their goal. Writer-director Todd Stephens (*Edge of Seventeen* and *Gypsy 83*) set out to make the "gayest movie ever made" and succeeds, splendidly. *Another Gay Movie* also has appearances by a number of popular gay actors including Scott Thompson, Graham Norton and Darryl Stephens from another of this year's films *Boy Culture*.

"Hot, filthy, fun and scandalous" – HX Magazine New York

# sunday february 18

# 3pm Academy Twin Twilight Dancers

Philippines 2006 105 mins 35mm Dir. Mel Chionglo



From the depths of a soft-focus blur, a gorgeous young man emerges. Dressed only in tight briefs, he moves slowly and sensually to the music playing. Then another appears behind him, and another. Soon the screen is filled with a bevy of dancers, sinuous bodies in motion for the pleasure of their audience. This is the life of the macho dancer in Manilla. Gay and straight, they cope with the demands of the job and the additional money from an adoring fan. *Twilight Dancers* plunges deep into the melodrama of its premise, luxuriating in its scenes of passion, greed and betrayal.

#### 5.20pm Academy Twin Colma: The Musical

US 2006 119 mins video Dir. Richard Wong





Colma, a suburb of San Francisco renowned for its massive cemeteries, is now the home to a movie musical starring three ultra-bored, just-out-of-high-school teens. Meet Rodel, Billy and Maribel. Boasting 13 song and dance numbers for the disaffected with titles like "Could We Get Any Older?" *Colma: the Musical* won the Special Jury Prize at the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival. This film conjures a fresh take on the musical genre, staked out by the next generation of up-and-coming, "get-me-out-of-here" youngsters. A poisoned pen letter to the city that's always sleeping, *Colma: the Musical*, proves that dead-end boredom will always be a birthplace for the fabulous.

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Nina's Heavenly Delights

UK 2006 96 mins 35mm Dir. Pratibha Parmar





This gorgeous Glaswegian romantic comedy begins when her father's unexpected death prompts Nina to return to her Indian family after several years exiled in London. Tensions are high. Luckily, Glasgow also reunites her with fabulous childhood friend Bobbi, a Bollywood drag queen who brings her out of her shell. At the heart of *Nina's Heavenly Delights*, however, is a secret love story brought on

by the complicated sale of the family business Nina is stubbornly trying to save. Of course, Nina's not the only one at odds with the traditional expectations of her family. She soon discovers her equally feisty younger siblings are also juggling their cultures in true *Bend It Like Beckham* comic style. Before it's all over we've not only been through a "Best of the West" curry competition but a "pure dead romantic" runaway cross-cultural marriage, multiple Bhangra inspired Bollywood musical numbers and some rather elaborate traditional Scottish dancing.

#### 7.30pm Academy Twin Dead Boyz Don't Scream

US 2006, 78 mins video Directed by Marc Saltarelli





As the tag line suggests, "Male models should be seen ... not heard!" America's top male models are turning up naked and dead during a cowboy mountain photo shoot. Who bashed the buff bimbo in the barn? Who silenced the stunning studs in the spa? These guys are a little self-absorbed, a little clueless and not great actors, but that's no reason to axe them, is it? Agent Tess Oster and her forest ranger girlfriend, Belle Van Dyke, must stop the slaughter before there are (oh tragedy!) no more male models left to shoot!

### 9.30pm Academy Twin The Devil Wears Levis



An edgy selection of short films from around the world and a companion program to *Fun In Boys Shorts*, these films



have a much tougher and often sexier feel. A gay guy does not want his flat-mate dating women in *Al Buio*. Two guys want to leave *No Evidence* about their sexual encounter. An art teacher decides to help a young male student improve is *School Boy Art*. Aussie director Jarrah Gurrie's *Cabalerno* focuses on a young guy who is videotaping an attractive skateboarder. *No Rewind* observes an event in reverse time. K and his friend live in a very repressed society in *K*, which won best Spanish short film in Madrid. Two male wedding guests decide to go on the town in *Spokane*.

AL BUIO (In The Dark) Italy 2006 10 mins. Dir. Fabio Mollo. CABALERNO US 2006 6 mins. Dir. Jarrah Gurrie. K Spain 2005 12 mins. Dir. Juan Simons. NO EVIDENCE Ireland 2006. 12 mins. Dir. Brian Merriman. NO REWIND Spain 2005 6 mins. Dir. Carlos Macia. SCHOOL BOY ART US 2004 12 mins. Dir. Erica Cho. SPOKANE US 2004 29 mins, Dir. Larry Kennar.

## sub-ver-sion

n./ The act of working within an institution or system with the intention to undermine or overthrow it.

The second theme of the festival explores the not-so-subtle art of queering. To take a well-worn genre, scenario or premise and rejuvenate it with a new, queer perspective.

What would happen if Harry met Stanley? If Easy Rider was a Drag-King of the Road? Or American Pie was really a guiche?

The films in this program prove that the best cure for an old cliché is a queer eye for the plotline.

#### subversion highlights

Eating Out 2: Sloppy Seconds Another Gay Movie Colma: The Musical Dead Boyz Don't Scream Red Doors Poltergay Mom Tough Chicks Vampyros Lesbos Queer Duck February 16 + 27 February 17 + 26 February 18 February 18 February 19 + 22 February 20 February 21 + 23 February 24 February 24 February 25

# monday february 19

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Electroshock

Spain 2006 98 mins video Dir. Juan Carlos Claver



Based on a true story from Franco's rule of Spain during the 1970s, this film will resonate long after you have left the theatre. Two young schoolteachers, Pillar (Carmen Elias) and Elvira (Susi Sánchez), are deeply in love and manage to live contentedly together in secret. When their relationship is discovered, Pillar is sent to an asylum by her wealthy parents and Elvira spends years trying to locate her. Once reunited, they must struggle together through the enduring impact of Pillar's years of incarceration. This is a significant insight into the history of Spain's treatment of same-sex relationships. It provides us with an incredible reminder of those who managed to live queer under the weight of tremendous oppression in a country that, 30 years later, was one of the first to make same-sex marriage legal. Remember to bring the tissues! – *Spanish with English Subtitles* 

#### With: Machulenco

Spain 2004 15 mins. Dir. David Blanco.

#### 7pm Dendy Newtown Red Doors

US 2005 92 mins 35mm Dir. Georgia Lee





Meet the Wongs, a bizarrely dysfunctional Chinese-American family living in the New York suburbs. Julie (Elaine Kao) is the middle child of the family, falling fast for the lesbian celebrity movie star researching a role at the hospital where she's interning. (Session repeated see Thurs Feb 22 for more detail)

#### 7.30 pm Academy Twin Fun In Boys Shorts



Our popular annual collection of the best comedy shorts from queer and

straight festivals around the globe. Four men arrive at a bar to meet somebody in *Available Men*, but there are some misunderstandings in this film that won Best Short at the Toronto World Comedy Festival. You may well be reminded of past dinners in *Dinner Conversation*, while crashing a car has unexpected consequences in *Gnome*. A sex toy proves popular with the whole family in *Heirloom* and *In Bed With Joyce* features Sydney icon Joyce Mange indulging in a little sex. Stereotypes are challenged in *Is One Of You Eddie*? A guy and a girl both fancy a cute Hong Kong cop in *Police Box* while *Rugburn* focuses on a young man who calls a collection agency about his overdue bills and gets his ex on the phone.

AVAILABLE MEN US 2005 15 min. Dir. by David Dean Bottrell. DINNER CONVERSATION US 2006 4 mins. Dir. Brian Palermo. GNOME US 15 mins. Dir. Jenny Bicks. HEIRLOOM US 2006 15 mins. Dir. Jon Teboe. IN BED WITH JOYCE, Australia 2006 2 mins. Dir. Shane Pascoe. IS ONE OF YOU EDDIE? US 2006 8 mins. Dir. Michael Simon. POLICE BOX Hong Kong 2006 3 mins. Dir. Josh Kim. RUGBURN Canada 2005 13 mins. Dir. Trevor Anderson.

#### <sup>9pm Dendy Newtown</sup> Between The Lines: India's Third Gender

Germany/India 2005 95 min, video Dir. Thomas Wartmann



With young Indian photographer Anita Khemka as our guide, this film sets out to explore Bombay's vibrant and feisty Hijra subculture. Rejecting identification with either gender, the Hijra constantly challenge conventional notions about femininity, sexuality and cultural stereotypes. Shot by the renowned cinematographer Thomas Riedelsheimer, the footage of India is exquisite. We get to hang out at Bombay's bars, brothels, back-streets, its temples and festivals as we spend time with Laxmi, a glamorous dance teacher; Rambha, a romantic 18-year-old and Asha, a jaded alcoholic, as they frankly share their secrets (and their many luscious outfits). Nothing beats the dizzying annual Koovagam festival, an elaborate event of truly "only-in-India" proportions. You're unlikely to see anything like it ever again. – *Hindi & English with English subtities* 

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin While You Are Here

(So Lange Du Hier Bist) Germany 2006 78 mins 35mm Directed by Stefan Westerwelle



Georg, an anally retentive older man, looks forward to the regular visits by an attractive young prostitute Sebastian. He tidies the house and prepares everything in anticipation. One night Sebastian decides to stay over. Georg expresses no emotion about this, but we learn that this is a truly momentous and exciting event for him. An exploration of needs, passions and loneliness swirling around, *While You Are Here* stands out from most hustler films with its sensitive portrayal of both prostitute and client. – *German with English subtitles* 

#### With: Tanguero

Germany 2006 7 mins. Dir. Daniel Seideneder & Hernando Tascon



## tuesday february 20

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Backstage

France 2005 115 mins 35mm Dir. Emmanuelle Bercot



For the star-struck 16-year-old Lucie, the only thing that gives life meaning is the enigmatic and inaccessible French pop idol, Lauren. She worships her. When chance intervenes and Lauren is brought into the bedroom of her suburban home for a reality TV-style publicity stunt, Lucie is drawn into a perverse, impossible relationship with the star of her dreams. Blistering performances from Emmanuelle Seiger and Isild Le Besco give this visceral drama an incredible punch. Weaving an elaborate dialogue with the mainstream media's manipulation of celebrity worship, *Backstage* not only enters the dark psyche behind the glittering celebrity façade, it totally queers the experience. – *French with English subtitles* 

#### QUEER KINO (FULL DETAILS PAGE 8)

#### 7pm Chauvel Cinema

Madame X: An Absolute Ruler (Madame X: Eine Absolute Herrscherin) Germany 1977 141 mins 35mm – Dir. Ulrike Ottinger – German with English subtitles

Madame X, the irresistibly cruel and uncrowned pirate ruler of the China Seas, lures women away from their ordinary lives to gather aboard the ship Orlando for adventures at sea.

#### 7pm Dendy Newtown Boy I Am

US 2006 77 mins video Dir. Sam Feder & Julie Hollar



While female-to-male transgender visibility increases, conversations about trans issues in the lesbian community often run into significant resistance. This sophisticated documentary begins to break down that barrier. *Boy I Am* promotes incredibly rich dialogue through a look at the experiences of three young transitioning FTMs in New York City alongside the voices of lesbians, activists and theorists who address the questions about gender, identity and feminism few openly discuss. What emerges is the vital and oft neglected ways in which trans issues are inextricably linked to queer and feminist struggles. The interviews with leading gender and feminist theorist Judith Halberstam alone are worth the ticket price.

With: Kaden

US 2006 8 mins. Dir. Harriet Storm

#### 7.30pm Academy Twin The Dying Gaul

US 2005 105 mins 35mm Dir. Craig Lucas





Young screenwriter Robert (Peter Sarsgaard) has his very personal and very gay script bought by a Hollywood studio. Even though the bisexual studio executive Jeffrey (Cambell Scott) wants the script turned straight he has no hesitation in beginning a passionate affair with Robert. Meanwhile Jeffrey's wife Elaine (Patricia Clarkson) develops her own friendship with Robert, and the trio become entwined in an ever more tangled web of deceit. As the transparent lies begin to bleed real blood, the alliances take a wholly unexpected and eviscerating turn.

"The performances are uniformly superb. The Dying Gaul is mesmerising, fiercely original, and tantalisingly entertaining, but be forewarned ... its dark heart beats without compromise or, even in the end, compassion." – Gabriel Shanks, Mixed Reviews

#### 9pm Dendy Newtown Loving Annabelle

US 2006 77 mins video Dir. Katherine Brooks





Inspired by the 1930s German classic *Madchen in Uniform*, the sultry *Loving Annabelle* tells the controversial story of a teacher whose passion is unlocked by a rebellious new student. (**Repeat session see Fri Feb 16 for more detail**)

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin Poltergay

France 2006 93 mins video Dir. Eric Lavaine





A young couple, Marc and Emma, move into their new home, a magnificent old mansion that has been deserted for 30 years. They're unaware that, a long time ago, the house's cellar was a gay nightclub. On April 29, 1979 at 2am, following an electrical accident with the foam machine, right in the middle of a disco party, the club was destroyed. Five of the dancers' bodies were never found. Today the house is haunted by five gay ghosts who like to party and tease. Marc sees them, Emma doesn't. A psychologist suggests this may be because he is secretly gay. Be prepared for plenty of 70s disco and heaps of fun. This is *Saturday Night Fever* meets *La Cage Aux Folles* meets *Poltergeist* as only the French could do it.

### reverision

#### n./ A return to a former condition, belief, or interest.

As we revisit stories of our past, unearthing lost artifacts of our queer kin, we are kept mindful of how far we have come and we are reminded of how much we have still to achieve.

The history of the queer community continues to supply our filmmakers with endless compelling and inspiring stories. The reversion program honours our survival, the passing on of knowledge, oral histories, learned traditions, and folklore.

At the same time it stands as a warning. While some politicians and social commentators advance upon every opportunity to empower "traditional values", these films are a revelation of the archaic prejudices and practices hidden in our past. We must never return to these outmoded principles. We can only move forward from here.

#### reversion highlights

Queer Kino	S
Fabulous: The Story of	
Queer Cinema	F
Electroshock	F
The King and the Clown	F
Far From Sunset Boulevard	F
Shabnam Mousi	Fe
Paper Dolls	Fe
Vacationland	Fe
Infamous	M

see page 8

February 17
February 19
February 21
February 21
February 26
February 27
February 27
March 1

# wednesday february 21

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Love Sick

(Legaturi Bolnavicioase) Romania 2006 85 mins 35mm Dir. Tudor Giurgiu



One of very few Romanian titles to ever screen at Mardi Gras Film Festival, *Love Sick* brings us a new queer perspective of contemporary Romania. The worldly city dweller Kiki (Maria Popistasu) and the wide-eyed country girl Alex (Ioana Barbu) are youngsters who meet in the majestic city of Bucharest, where they both study French at university. Kiki adds a dangerous edge to the good girl Alex's studious ways and their easygoing friendship effortlessly turns into an intense love affair. At first, everything is bliss, but when Kiki's jealous brother Sandu (Tudor Chirila) arrives, buried secrets begin to bubble to the surface. Kiki is also in love with her brother, who is in turn driven crazy with rage over Kiki's connection with Alex. The two women's heated obsession with French literature is a hint that the story for *Love Sick* heralds from a centuries-old French novel, itself originally inspired by true events in Romania. – *Romanian with English subtitles* 

#### With: Airplanes

US 2006 8 mins. Dir. Jen Heck.

## 7pm Dendy Newtown

US 2006 70 mins video. Dir. Erin Greenwell



New York comedian Julie Goldman stars as a hyperactive camerawoman stuck on a suburban market research mission with a straight-laced reporter. (Session repeated see Fri Feb 23 for more detail).

#### 7.30pm Academy Twin Eleven Men Out

lceland 2005 85 mins 35mm Dir. Robert I. Douglas



It seems that soccer (or football) is

increasingly a gay men's sport. Last year we had the German *Balls* and this year it is rugged Nordic men from Iceland scoring goals. Ottar Thor (Björn Hlynur Haraldsson) is the handsome, arrogant star player of a pro soccer team. He doesn't think about the repercussions when he decides to tell a journalist that he's gay, but teammates, the conservative owners and everyone else immediately freak out and Ottar soon

finds himself banned from play. He joins a friend's amateur league team and soon more gay guys show up, drawn by the star's notoriety. While hetero players flee Ottar's 13-year-old son is not worried about his father being gay, but is mortified at the publicity and unwelcome attention it brings. – *Icelandic with English subtitles* 

#### QUEER KINO (FULL DETAILS PAGE 8) 7pm Chauvel Cinema

Fox & His Friends Germany 1975 117 mins video Dir. Rainer Werner Fassbinder – German with English subtitles

#### <sup>9pm Dendy Newtown</sup> The King and The Clown

(Wang-ui Namja) Korea 2005 119 mins 35mm Dir. Jun-ik Lee





Two clowns/acrobats (Jang-Sen and Gong-gil) living in the Chosun Dynasty are arrested for staging a play that satirises the king. They are dragged to the palace and threatened with execution but are given a chance to save their lives if they can make the king laugh. These two have a very, very close relationship. During the performance, the king becomes extremely interested in the more effeminate of the two (Gong-gil) and decides to keep the pair at the palace, much to the chagrin of his ministers and wife. The androgenous Gong-gil gets under the skin of the King and he is powerless to stop the dark desires that overwhelm him. There are strong references to *Farewell My Concubine* in the opulence of the historical setting. A sumptuous film where passions and jealousy see the beneath the surface. – *Korean with English subtitles* 

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin Far From Sunset Boulevard

France/Russia 2005 130 mins 35mm Dir. Igor Minaiev



A young Russian director has returned home after spending time in the US with his gay lover, a famous Russian director. Now he wants to make a glitzy Hollywood musical in the Russian cinema mileux of the Stalin era. His experience opens doors, but his homosexuality is always a sword hanging over his head. The director discovers that "they know everything", but is allowed to work if he signs a paper declaring that he will reveal any information they ask for. *Far From Sunset Boulevard* is about the sacrifices made for both art and love. There is a note saying that the film is not based on real characters, but many feel the famous Russian director in America has a strong resemblance to Sergei Eisenstein. – *Russian with English subtitles* 



\* offer valid Jan 15-March 15 2007 in-store only



ROAD TRIF

## thursday february 22

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Red Doors US 2005 92 mins 35mm

Dir. Georgia Lee



This film won the Best Narrative Feature Award at Robert DeNiro's highprofile Tribeca Film Festival and it's easy to see why. Meet the Wongs, a bizarrely dysfunctional Chinese-American family living in the New York suburbs. Ed Wong (Tzi Ma *The Quiet American, Rush Hour*) is obsessed by family home movies and having just retired, is plotting to escape his mundane life until the tumultuous, madcap lives of his three rebellious, over-achieving daughters change his plans. Julie (Elaine Kao) is the middle child of the family. She's falling fast for the lesbian celebrity movie star researching a role at the hospital where she's interning. Meanwhile she's trying to keep her family from falling apart as dad and her sisters negotiate their own growing pains and become tangled in the ensuing comic misdemeanors.

#### 7pm Dendy Newtown Triple X Selects The Best of Lesploitation



US 2006 45 mins video Compiled by Michelle Johnson



Swedish Wildcats, Italian Lesbionic Nuns, Frisky Inmates in South American Prisons, Euro Lesbo Vampires and a vast assortment of Sapphic Sleaze. This is Sexploitation. Exploitation. Gridhouse. To be Polite or Academic we call it "Erotic Cinema". Whatever your term of choice, this genre's glory days blasted through the 60's and 70's. None of these films were strictly lesbian, or even for lesbians but this historic montage will change that. Fast-forward through the mayhem, torture, gore, and hetero fornication (all staples of this genre) and stroll down a sexed-up memory lane. Culled from over 20 films shot in Europe, North and South America, and featuring wacked-out scientific commentary from a bizarre 60's "documentary" on lesbians, this is an international feast of Lesploitation in all its notoriously twisted glory. Here are Erotic Cinema's heroines of the 60's and 70's, fighting, tempting, teasing and f\*\*ing each other. These ladies are depraved, filthy-dirty and insatiable. You will be too.

With: Terrorist She Freaks Of Texas US 2005 25 mins. Dir. Holly Lewis. 7.30pm Academy Twin Open Cam

US 2005 105 mins video Dir. Robert Gaston





Hunky young artist Manny Yates (played to beefy blonde perfection by Andreau Thomas) loves to cruise the net for sex, often scoring with hot guys. But what starts out as fun changes dramatically when an Internet serial killer signs on and begins an on-web-cam killing spree. Manny emerges as the only connection between the gruesome series of murders - one by one, his exes and tricks are slaughtered online. The dark, sexy and sardonic cop Hamilton (Amir Darvish) is on the case. As sparks ignite between Detective and Lead, Hamilton is assigned to protect Manny personally. But could their relationship make Hamilton the next target? Compelling and erotic, *Open Cam* is an elegant thriller about love in dangerous times.

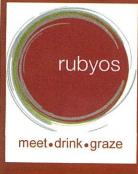
"It's got all the hot buttons you guys love: sexy men who appear naked, a hot cop (who likes to bottom), a terrific mystery, romance and a completely compelling story - you won't be able to turn this one off. "- TLAvideo.com

9.30pm Academy Twin Grimm Love

(Rohtenburg) Germany 2006 90 mins video Dir. Martin Weisz



One of the most disturbing queer films you are likely to see. Also known as *Butterfly: A Grimm Love Story*, this film is based on the Armin Meiwes cannibal murder case in Germany, but the character's name has been changed to Oliver Hartwin. Keri Russell plays Katie Armstrong, a US student studying criminal psychology in Germany. She hears about the case and investigates. The gay Oliver Hartwin (Thomas Kretschmann) has always dreamt of eating a willing victim. He advertises on the internet and along comes Simon Grimbeck (Thomas Huber). The story unfolds as Katie investigates the men and their relationship leading up to the event, ending when she discovers a snuff tape that documents the crime. This film was banned in Germany. It won the Best Director and Best Actor (Thomas Kretschmann & Thomas Huber) awards at the Festival de Cine de Sitges. – German with English subtitles



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# friday february 23

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin

Mom

US 2006 70 mins video Dir. Erin Greenwell





The notorious butch New York comedian Julie Goldman stars as Linda, a hyperactive, fly-by-the-seat-of-her-pants camerawoman stuck on a suburban market research mission with a straight-laced reporter called Kelly. A hotel mix up sees the ultra laidback Linda and the super uptight Kelly retiring after a hard day's market research work to the local Youth Hostel, their dorm room over-run by a couple of horny baby dykes. As things go more and more awry in this human-scale situation comedy, the edgy performances of Julie Goldman and Emily Burton truly rise to the occasion. This cheeky two-hander plays the odd couple road movie to lesbian perfection.

#### With: The Science Of Love

US 2005 14 min.. Dir. Joyce Draganosky.

#### 7pm Dendy Newtown The Gymnast

US 2006 96 min video Dir. Ned Farr





Once an Olympic gymnast at the top of her game, Jane Hawkins (Dreya Weber, *Lovely and Amazing*) sustained a career-ending injury and is now a disciplined massage therapist in her 40s. She is dedicated but running herself into the ground, slowly disappearing in a passionless marriage. A chance meeting sets her in a new direction and she discovers the aerial trapeze. Suddenly, she's doing something she loves again and is a joy to watch as she begins to master the power and beauty of her new art form. She meets Serena (Addie Yungmee), a sharp-witted, pierced and tattooed dancer with a wicked sense of humour, the adopted Korean daughter of elderly Jewish parents. The two begin preparations for a stunning *Cirque de Soliel*-esque acrobatic act as the gravitational pull between them becomes stronger than their gorgeous, sensuous choreography. *The Gymnast* skilfully explores the emotional intensity that unfolds in this space between physicality and sexuality.

" The Gymnast is a rare gem of a film. Scripter and director Ned Farr, making his feature debut, strikes a perfect balance in depicting both the beauty and the strength of his characters, as well as the vulnerability and yearning behind their perfectly honed physiques." – Natalie Peterson, Frameline

#### 7.30pm Academy Twin Cut Sleeve Boys

UK 2006 86 mins video Directed by Ray Yeung





Mel and Ash are two British-Chinese gay men who study and drink lychee martinis together. Mel, an aging scene queen with the ego of Norma Desmond, believes life is a beauty pageant with him always the winner. He rejects the love of Todd, a provincial boy from the Welsh valley who moves to London to be with him, in favour of quick-fix Botox sex to fight his insecurities. Ash is tired of the jaded gay scene where steroid bodies and the Atkin's diet are the only offerings on the menu and all the macho posing only reveals a Farah Fawcett in the bedroom. With witty one-liners, an underground drag club, sex in public toilets and an all male production of the Miss Pacific Rim Beauty Pageant, *Cut Sleeve Boys* is a quirky stir-fried journey of self discovery and ultimately, a makeover of the British Chinese gay experience.

"I wanted to watch a film about modern gay Asian lives. A film which asks 'What happens to gay men once they have accepted their queerness? Do they live gaily ever after?' So I set out to write a romantic comedy which dealt with these questions in a humorous way. Although the film focuses on two gay Chinese characters, I believe their problems are universal." – Ray Yeung, director

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin The Way We Write

Taiwan 2006 90 mins video Dir. Amy Wen





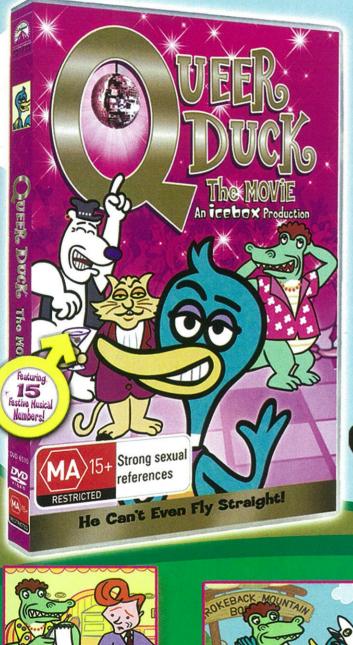
Despite lingering social stigma surrounding homosexuality, gay and lesbian awareness is alive and well in Taiwan, which many consider to be one of the forerunners of gay rights in Asia. As the Taiwanese tongzhi (queer) culture becomes more mainstream, it has bred a rich diversity of local queer films. This year alone, at least three gay features were made in Taiwan. *Go Go G-Boys* (a gay take on *Miss Congeniality*), *Eternal Summer* (a gay romance) and *The Way We Write*. This touching film, which is reminiscent of *The Wedding Banquet* in the father-son relationship, was sponsored and broadcasted by the Taiwan Public Television Service. A gay son has moved from Taiwan to China where he lives with his boyfriend. He has become very successful there, but the father, who remains at the family home in Taiwan, will not acknowledge him. A young girl may be the key to a meeting between the family members. This film accurately depicts the problems faced by many queer sons and daughters worldwide. – *Taiwanese with English subtitles* 

DIESE HERREN SPRECHEN DEUTSCH – SIE AUCH? These guys speak German – do you?

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# QUEER DUCK - THE MOVIE 'COMING OUT' ON DVD FEBRUARY 15



T.S.I.M

TER JOX

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This DVD extravaganza includes: 5 Original Queer Duck shorts & behind-the-scenes footage!

Available at:

8

# saturday february 24

#### 2pm Academy Twin Tough Chicks





When these chicks hit the streets running, it's all about talking back, giving it up,

getting the girl, getting even and freaking out. Outlaws, amateurs, jilted, jaded, or out on a limb, these girls have got to find a way get what they want, and fast. The all-girl, all-tattooed babes of *Surf Gang* stake out their territory, deal with their demons and keep the bad guys out of action. *Do The Math* and you'll understand why an angry young woman's got a lot to say. *Rape For Who I Am* tells the story of black South African lesbians raising awareness about their rights. A *Hold Up* goes horribly wrong when a pistol-wielding, stocking-headed woman tries to impress her ex. A woman must stand-up for herself following the death of her partner in *Brooklyn's Bridge To Jordan*. In *Road Rash* a young butch seeks out the assistance of her trusty bicycle when two leather-clad motorcycle ladies steal her freshly wined and dined femme. Meet *Tina Paulina: Living on Hope Street* and trying to keep her heart of gold shining.

BROOKLYN'S BRIDGE TO JORDAN US 2005 20 mins Dir. Tina Mabry. DO THE MATH 2006 US 4 mins. Dir. Mary Guzman. HOLD UP US 2005 7 mins. Dir. Madeleine Olnek. TINA PAULINA: LIVING ON HOPE STREET US 2005 10 mins. Dir. Barbara Green & Michelle Boyaner. ROAD RASH US 2007 6 mins. Dir. Chris Vargas. RAPE FOR WHO I AM 2006 South Africa 26 mins. Dir. Lovinsa Kavuma. SHAQLIN SISTERS Canada 2004 5 mins. Dir. Mishann Lau. SURF GANG US 2006 23 mins. Dir. Katrina del Mar. YOU'RE DEAD AFTER SCHOOL. Canada 2004 5 mins. Dir. Mishann Lau.

#### 3pm Academy Twin Whole New Thing

Canada 2005 92 min 35mm Dir. Amnon Buchbinder





Emerson Thorsen, a precocious, home-schooled 13-year-old, lives with his parents in the wilds of Nova Scotia in a complete eco-home. He's just had his first wet dream and completed and illustrated his first novel when Mum decides it's time to enrol him in the local high school. At 42, Don Grant, Emerson's new high school English teacher, has settled into a solitary life, paying regular visits to the toilets of a local park for anonymous sex. Initially scornful of his English teacher, Emerson quickly develops his first crush – on Don. The precociously confident boy, raised in a household of casual nudity and sexual openness, throws himself into this awakening of his heart with dangerous abandon. It's going to be a Whole New Thing.

#### 5.00pm Dendy Newtown Backstage

France 2005 115 mins 35mm Dir. Emmanuelle Bercot





For the star-struck 16-year-old Lucie, the only thing that gives life meaning is the enigmatic and inaccessible French pop idol, Lauren. – *French with English subtitles* (Repeat Session. See Tues Feb 20 for more detail)

#### 5.20pm Academy Twin Celluloid Salon

In response to the superb quality of this year's My Queer Career entrants, Celluloid Salon is a collection of the highest ranked films not screening on opening night, a number of which have also been invited to join our distribution initiatives,



including a national tour. In an animated game of love, our furry friend searches for a soul mate in A Bear Where? Three students bond during the production of a

school play but the real drama is playing out behind the scenes in *Untitled / The Trees.* In a city overrun by feral cats an exterminator discovers his place in the food chain in *Vermin.* A poison pen writes a love letter to Adelaide in *Disappointment* A haunting music video arrives with *Train at Six.* A secret past is re-ignited in *Flame.* A young migrant finds himself when somebody says *Hi,* and three woman recall their discoveries of queer identity in *Ready Or Not Here I Come... Out.* 

A BEAR WHERE? Australia 3 mins Dir, Jeremy Stewart, VERMIN Australia 23 mins Dir, Dean Francis, FLAME Australia 9 mins Dir, Natasha Johns-Messenger, HI Australia 9 mins Dir, Bundit Thianrat, DISAPPOINTMENT Australia 17 mins Dir, Unreasonable Adults READY OR NOT HERE I COME...OUT Australia 17 mins Dir, Katherine Wilkinson, UNTITLED/THE TREES Australia 7 mins Dir, Alex Goddard, TRAIN AT SIX Australia 3 mins Dir, Bel Evans,

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Vampyros Lesbos

Spain/Germany 1970 90 mins video Dir. Jesus Franco



Queer Screen brings you the uncut,

uncensored edition of Jesus Franco's 1970 erotic masterpiece, *Vampyros Lesbos*. Billed as a psycho sexadelic horror freakout this film is about a vixen vampiress seducing and killing women to appease her insatiable thirst for female blonde. Exisiting in that twilight zone between arthouse and grindhouse, too trashy for the former and too experimental for the latter, this cult exploitation flick has been described as "the Citizen Kane of European exploitation", making it the ultimate companion to our *Triple X Selects: The Best of Lesploitation* presentation at the Dendy Newtown.

#### 7.30pm Academy Twin Fat Girls

US 2006 82 mins video Dir. Ash Christian





It's not easy being Rodney Miller. His dad dies during sex with a dominatrix, his mom is a fundamentalist who serves "holy hamburgers" for dinner, and the only other gay guy at his Texas high school, sexy blond Brit Joey, is running hot and cold. An irreverent, no-budget romp, *Fat Girls* is the writing-directing debut of 21-year-old Ash Christian, who plays awkward, lovable Rodney with painful familiarity. "Ever since I was a little kid I felt like a Fat Girl," Rodney complains, "you don't have to be fat to be a Fat Girl. You don't even have to be a girl. It's a state of mind." Rodney dreams of making it on Broadway, but first he needs enough self-esteem to survive his date with Joey at the graduation dance.

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin Broken Sky

(El cielo dividido) Mexico 2006, 140 mins 35mm Dir. Julián Hernández



Julián Hernández, writer-director of the award-winning *A Thousand Clouds of Peace*, reprises his sensual cinematic vision with the stunning, gorgeous and deeply moving *Broken Sky*. The film opens on two beautiful university students, Gerardo and Jonas. They have the perfect relationship filled with plenty of passionate sex and true romance. Their lives seem ideal, but one night at a club Jonas hooks up with another boy, Bruno, and cannot get him out of his head. Gerardo is heartbroken, and even though he still passionately loves Jonas, he<sup>®</sup> eventually begins an affair with Sergio, the university's sexy, brooding caretaker. *Broken Sky* takes the time to fully explore the joy, the pain and the passion of these changing relationships. With exquisite cinematography, minimal dialogue, spare voice-over narration and a bold attention to detail, Hernández has made the most erotically beautiful film of the festival. – *Spanish with English subtitles* 

# sunday february 25

#### 2pm Academy Twin Fun In Girls Shorts





When we put the sexy and funny shorts together things get cheeky, cheesy, charming and sometimes

even coy. A woman takes cupid's arrow into her own hands (literally!) in *Love, Struck.* A gorgeous interior designer just can't seem to shake a zealous, heated up old flame in *Cosa Bella.* Two anthropologists have it out on either side of the academic divide in *The Science of Love.* We go back to a time of secret liaisons between women who lived double lives in illegal British dyke bars in *Private Life.* A successful long-term relationship hits shaky new territory in *Attack of the Bride Monster.* An unlikely friend comes between two lesbians in the screwball comedy *His Name is Cosmo.* The girlfriend uses her expert climbing skills for some undercover "cat" burglary in *Succubus.* ATTACK OF THE BRIDE MONSTER US 2005 17 min. Dir. Vicky Boone. COSA BELLA US 2005 16 mins. Dir. Fiona Mackenzie. HIS NAME IS COSMO US 2006 18 mins. Dir. Nicole Ropper. LOVE. STRUCK US 2005 14 mins. Dir. Susa Ali. PRIVATE LIFE 2006 UK 15 min. Dir. Abbe Robinson. THE SCIENCE OF LOVE US 2005 14 mins. Dir. Joyce Draganosky. SUCCUBUS US 2006 15 min. Dir. Alison Reid.

#### 3pm Academy Twin Queer Duck: The Movie

US 2006 74 mins video Dir. Xeth Feinberg & Mike Reiss



This outrageous feature length animated

comedy and musical extravaganza will have you in stitches. Four-time Emmy winning writer Mike Reise (*The Simpsons*) and animator Xeth Feinberg have created this all-new over-the-top adventure, featuring Queer Duck and his fabulous friends out for the time of their lives. Queer Duck began as an online character before becoming a series of cartoons that were screened prior to *Queer As Folk* in the US. The character gained a very strong following and has now been turned into an hilarious feature film. This is a funny, clever and outrageous movie with tons of surprise celebrity guests. Cameos include Joan Rivers, Bjork, Rosie O'Donnell, Elizabeth Taylor, Barbra Streisand, and, of course, Michael Jackson. Come along and see *Queer Duck*, the funniest queer animated feature ever made.

## 5pm Dendy Newtown I Can See Queerly Now



These brand new shorts from Australian queer youth delve into the dark side. Join us when the filmmakers for Adelaide

Feast's I Can See Queerly Now project meet the team from Twenty10 LGBT Youth Support and Channel free for an afternoon in Newtown. When a high school student and older woman start playing a game of cat and mouse, all is not what it seems in *The Catch. Disappointment* pens a poisoned love letter to Adelaide, the murder capital of Australia. Exploring the fragility and frivolity of relationships, *I Think We Should Break Up* ventures into the lives of three couples after these words are spoken. Stuart is a teenager struggling to stay afloat, who cannot seem to get his mind off Aaron. When Aaron finds out what Stuart has been doing to himself, his response saves Stuart from going under in *Not Drowning, Waving. Stray* follows the story of Mouse, a teenager who leaves his home in the country in search of his place in the world. Along the way he is exposed to the seedy underbelly of the city and the people who live there, placing him in danger of being consumed by the drug soaked landscape of the ghetto.

THE CATCH Australia 2006 20 mins. Dir. Yasmin Subunco. DISAPPOINTMENT Australia 2006 17 mins. Dir. Unreasonable Adults. I THINK WE SHOULD BREAK UP Australia 2006 11 mins. Dir. Patrick Lang. NOT WAVING, DROWNING Australian 2006 10 mins. Dir. Michael Trawer STRAY Australia 2007 13 mins. Dir. Craig Boreham & Dean Francis.

# 5.20pm Academy Twin Best Of Britain



They may have lost the cricket, but the boys from Britain are still bringing us some excellent new short films. A person is

bashed, but who did the *Attack*ing and why; while two university students have a faltering relationship in *Best Mates. Rock N Roll Suicide* is a music video to the David Bowie song. A knight has trouble with his sword when he goes to slay a dragon in *The Tale of Sir Richard.* A young man comes face to face with his past in *Scarred.* In *Familiar* a very queer event takes on a more mainstream look. Max Lincoln set up a British company to take on US and European porn, sharing his ideas in *Seven Secrets To Perfect Porn.* We end with *Summer*, a touching film of gay desire.

ATTACK UK 2005 7 mins. Dir. Timothy Smith. BEST MATES UK 2006 10 mins. Dir. Maninderpal Sahota. FAMILIAR UK 2006 9 mins. Dir. Kate Sweeney. ROCK N ROLL SUICIDE UK 2006 3 mins. Dir. Nathan Evans. SCARRED UK 2006 10 mins. Dir. Damien Rea. SEVEN SECRETS TO PERFECT PORN UK 2005 32 mins. Dir. Max Barber. SUMMER UK 2006 9 mins. Hong Khaou. THE TALE OF SIR RICHARD UK 2006 4 mins. Dir. Peter Dodd.

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Looking For Cheyenne

(Oublier Cheyenne) France 2005 90 mins 35mm Dir. Valerie Minetto





This elaborate, quirky and dark French film blends realism and fantasy to address the complex ideological differences that challenge a beautiful relationship. Cheyenne (Mila Dekker) is an out-of-work and deeply disillusioned journalist who can no longer pay the bills. Frustrated by society's pressures, the unemployed idealist decides to buck the system and the capitalist machine and live selfsufficiently in the country. Her lover, Sonia (Aurelia Petit), a warm, assertive high school teacher who loves her job, refuses to follow Cheyenne and stays in Paris. Heartbroken, Sonia takes up a series of rather inappropriate one-night stands. Cheyenne and Sofia still want each other but their star-crossed economic and political views keep pushing them apart. *Looking For Cheyenne* manages a complex set of social concerns, critiquing the incredible unemployment situation in France with its elaborate love story. – *French with English Subtitles* (Session repeated. See Tues Feb 27 for more detail)

9.30pm Academy Twin No Regret Korea 2006 114 mins

Dir. Leesong Hee-il





An attractive young guy, Sumin, moves from a country orphanage to Seoul to study art design. In order to support his studies, he works as a prostitute in a gay bar. Jaemin finds Sumin very attractive and tries to win him over. Jaemin comes from a rich conservative family and is very much in the closet. However, he becomes obsessed with Sumin and eventually the two become lovers. This is the first Korean feature directed by an out Korean (Leesong Hee-il) and he does so with real verve. He accurately captures the feel of a host bar with the boys working for a male "madame", and the subtle class structure of Korean straight and queer society. This is surprisingly funny, sexy and dramatic with an ending that will stay in your mind long after the final frame.

# monday february 26

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Shabnam Mousi

India 2005 150 min video Dir. Yogesh Bhardwaj





It's what we've all been waiting for, an outrageous Bollywood musical with a kick-ass, all-singing, all-dancing, kung fu fighting, gender bending Bollywood queen in the title role. Shabnam Mousi (Aunty Shabnam, played by Ashutosh Rana) is a larger-than-life political figure. She speaks 14 languages, is adept at arm-wrestling and very bright. Shabnam leaves her Hijra community in search of a new life and rises up to become a vital political force in India. This stirring feel-good saga cranks up the melodrama with the most villainous of villains, a singing assassin, and some ultra-fabulous saris but it is actually based on a true story. Aunty Shabnam, a real persona and member of India's large community of Hijras (otherwise known as eunuchs), was the first Hijra to successfully run for political office. This film gives us a fascinating insight into the intricacies of the community, the complexities of India's political landscape and the makings of Bollywood movie madness itself. — *Hindi with English subtitles* 

#### **QUEER KINO (FULL DETAILS PAGE 8)**

7pm Chauvel Cinema Maybe Maybe Not (Der Bewegte Mann) Germany

1994 93 mins format. Dir. Sönke Wortmann

This 1994 film gives rise to some very funny moments, proving, as did *Balls* last year, that Germans do have a good sense of humour. – *German with English subtitles* 

# 7pm Dendy Newtown Summer Heat

(Kaleido) Philippines, 2006, 90 min, 35mm Dir. Brillante Mendoza





From the director of *The Masseur* (Mardi Gras Film Festival 2006) comes another beautifully rendered queer tale from the Philippines, *Summer Heat*. Three sisters take care of their widowed father (Johnny Delgado) in the small Filipino town of Guagua. Grace (Julianna Palermo), the youngest is newly married and wanting out of its strangleholds. Loudres (acclaimed actor Angel Aquino) in the middle, is in the throes of an extra-marital affair. Jess (the versatile celebrity Cherry Pie Picache), the strength of the family and a resolute butch lesbian, brings home her girlfriend Weng (Criselda Volks) to take care of her father after he has a heart attack. The story, told from the perspective of each of the daughters, unfolds over the course of one summer, moving through the delicate local seasons of *Kaleido* (early summer), *Maleldo* (midsummer) and *Kauran* (late summer). *– Tagalog with English subtitles* 

#### 7.30pm Academy Twin Boy Culture

UK 2006 88 mins video Dir. Q. Allan Brocka



Hunky rent boy X (Derek Magyar) prefers to be available to select clients but is up for anything that pays. He is, however, secretly in love with his dreamboat roommate Andrew (Darryl Stephens). (Repeat Session. See Fri Feb 16 for more detail)

#### 9pm Dendy Newtown Last Second

(Detik Terakhir) Indonesia 2005 112 mins 35mm Dir. Nanang Istiabudi





The first lesbian feature film from Indonesia paints a dark and elaborate picture of a complex contemporary life among rich and poor kids dealing with teen angst, drugs and violence. Regi is in a rehab centre when a visitor brings news of Rajib, a mutual friend who is in prison, provoking Regi to intimately reflect on the events of her own tangled life. *Last Second* tells the story of her escape into an underground club scene where she meets Vela, with whom she falls madly in love. Based on the novel *Jangan Beri Aku Narkoba* by Alerthiene Endah *Last Second* offers an indictment against inadequate parenting and support services for victims of abuse or substance dependency. Dealing with an intricate array of issues affecting young people in the region, this film is an incredible new contribution to queer storytelling from Indonesia. – *Indonesian with English subtitles* 

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin Another Gay Movie

US 2006 90 mins video Dir. Todd Stephens



The most outrageous gay comedy of the year is filled to the brim with sex, comedy, romance and nudity in a very queer *American Pie*. A group of graduating gay high-school boys make a pledge to lose their virginity before college begins. (**Repeat Session. See Sat Feb 17 for more detail**)

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# tuesday february 27

#### 6.30pm Academy Twin Vacationland

US 2006 104 mins video Dir. Todd Verow





Director Todd Verow is best known for his sexy cutting edge films such as *Anonymous* from our 2005 festival. This year he is back with a very different, somewhat nostalgic film inspired by his teen years in Bangor, Maine. *Vacationland* tells a story of gay lust in high school between Joe (Brad Hallowell), a (clearly autobiographical) theatre geek, and his sexy friend, Andrew (Gregory J. Lucas), a football star. Joe has been edging his way out of the closet for some time, often spending hours at the mall men's room, while Andrew takes to drink to avoid banging his chick. They both have girlfriends, but the charade is wearing thin. The boys continue to play hetero in public until the girlfriends decide to get these two to start playing with each other (the scene in which the boys first make love while the girlfriends peer around the wall is pretty damned hot). Their relationship develops through lovingly captured scenes full of the tension and longing that only first love can bring.

#### QUEER KINO (FULL DETAILS PAGE 8)

7pm Chauvel Cinema

Virgin Machine (Die Jungfrauenmaschine) Germany 1988 84 mins video. Dir. Monika Treut

Dorothee, a would-be writer and journalist, leaves Germany for the Oz of San Francisco, searching for her long-lost mother and a cure for the malady of love. – *German and English with English subtitles* 

# 7.00pm Dendy Newtown Looking For Cheyenne

(Oublier Cheyenne) France 2005 90 mins 35mm Dir. Valerie Minetto



This elaborate, quirky and dark French film blends realism and fantasy to address the complex ideological differences that challenge a beautiful relationship. Cheyenne (Mila Dekker) is an out-of-work and deeply disillusioned journalist who can no longer pay the bills. Frustrated by society's pressures, the unemployed idealist decides to buck the system and the capitalist machine and live self-sufficiently in the country. Her lover, Sonia (Aurelia Petit), a warm, assertive high school teacher who loves her job, refuses to follow Cheyenne and stays in Paris. Heartbroken, Sonia takes up a series of rather inappropriate one-night stands. Cheyenne and Sofia still want each other but their starcrossed economic and political views keep pushing them apart. *Looking For Cheyenne* manages a complex set of social concerns, critiquing the incredible unemployment situation in France with its elaborate love story. – *French with English Subtitles* 

#### 7.30pm Academy Twin Eating Out 2: Sloppy Seconds

US 2006 80 mins video Dir. Phillip Bartell



Advertised as the first ever American gay movie sequel, *Eating Out 2: Sloppy Seconds* delivers all the sex, fun and laughs of the original with an extra dollop of raunchiness thrown in for good measure. (**Repeated session. See Fri Feb 17 for more detail**)

#### 9pm Dendy Newtown Paper Dolls

(Bubot Niyar) Israel/Switzerland 2005 80 mins 35mm Dir. Tomer Heymann



Openly gay Israeli filmmaker Tomer Heymann has been regularly acclaimed for his intimate and unflinching documentaries. *Paper Dolls*, his latest film, took three awards including the coveted Panorama Audience Award at the Berlin Film Festival. After closing the border to Palestinian workers, Israeli authorities sought to fill gaps in the job market by enticing workers from other parts of the world. Among those who answered the call were queer Filipinos in various stages of gender transition. Shunned by their families and communities at home, they build new lives in Israel as caregivers for elderly, orthodox Jewish men in some of Tel Aviv's most conservative neighbourhoods. Many of their employers come to look upon them as substitute children. On their nights off, the workers perform elaborate drag acts in Tel Aviv's lively nightclubs as the "Paper Dolls". Heymann spent nearly five years hanging out with the Dolls making this movie and we witness his own complex, tender relationship with them emerge. – In Hebrew, English and Tagalog with English subtitles

#### 9.30pm Academy Twin **Cut Sleeve Boys**

UK 2006 86 mins video Dir. Ray Yeung



With witty one liners, an underground

drag club, sex in public toilets and an all male production of the Miss Pacific Rim Beauty Pageant, *Cut Sleeve Boys* is a quirky stir-fried journey of self discovery. (**Repeated Session. See Fri Feb 23 for more detail**)

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# wednesday february 28

## thursday march 1

#### QUEER KINO (FULL DETAILS PAGE 8)

7pm Chauvel Cinema Coming Out Germany 1989 110 mins. Dir. Heiner Carow Hailed as the first and only East German gay film, *Coming Out* premiered on the very day the Berlin Wall came down. – *German with English subtitles* 





(Pusang gala) Philippines 2006, 115 mins, 35mm Dir. Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil



Stray Cats follows the parallel love lives of Marta, a middle-aged advertising executive, and her gay friend and landlord, Boyet. Both are unwaveringly committed to their non-committal boyfriends. Marta's smooth boyfriend Steve has no intentions of marriage and Boyet's younger, sexy stud only visits when he is low on cash. Also in this group is Jojo, a young pickpocket who is sort of an adoptive son of Boyet. Boyet writes pulp romances and uses Marta's love life as the basis, spiced up with a strong dose of imagination. Drawn together, they devise a scheme leading to a riveting confrontation, with their efforts to even the score resulting in an unsettling yet memorable climax. *Stray Cats* won the prestigious \$10,000 First Feature Award at San Francisco's Frameline Festival and is credited with rejuvenating the Filipino film industry. *Stray Cats* is a daring, innovative comic-romance fantasy. – *Tagalog with English subtitles* 

#### 7.30pm & 9.30pm Academy Twin Academy Encore Sessions

On the eve of the festival's close we will present special encore screenings of the two most popular films from the festival. An excellent opportunity to see that sell-out you didn't book for, or that unexpected hit that everyone's been talking about. The encore sessions will be announced on Queer Screen's website on February 22, and keep an eye out for updates in the Academy foyer.





CLOSING NIGHT 8:00pm Randwick Ritz

Infamous

US 2006 110 mins 35mm Dir. Douglas McGrath



At last! The *other* Capote film. This new take on gay author Truman Capote was made at the same time as last year's hailed *Capote*, but was held back because it dealt with the same real-life characters. *Infamous* however, delves bravely where *Capote* was too scared to go – directly into the subject of Truman Capote's homosexuality. *Infamous* is the ultimate Closing Night extravaganza.

If you're afraid you'll be seeing a film you've already watched only with a different cast, fear not, as Stephen Holt puts it, there is one big distinction between the two films: "Infamous *is VERY gay. It's gay, gay, gay, and puts the sex back into homosexual. Both Capote and Smith are depicted as gay and attracted to one another and it really becomes a heart-wrenching, almost tragic love story, and beautiful, in its own way, as love between two men can often be."* 

Olivier Award-winning actor Toby Jones gives his tour-de-force rendition of Capote opposite the hunky new James Bond (Daniel Craig) in a 'dangerous, sexy-as-hell, ultimately heart-breaking performance' as the killer he falls in love with, Perry Smith. Joining them are Capote's 'swans' – Sigourney Weaver, Isabella Rossellini, Juliet Stevenson and Hope Davis.

This tale of a writer who mines the psychology of a killer to fuel his novel only to inevitably sympathise with his subject and fall for his muse, is given a new twist. In focusing on a criminal whose only loving relationship is with a man who is recording his every thought, word and deed, *Infamous* becomes something unexpected: a complex and poignant story of star crossed love.



# tickets 1300 306 776

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10 film packs are only available to Q	ueer Screen Members.
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MCA Tix: Ph: 1300 306 776

10am-6pm Mon to Fri, 10am-2pm Sat, Booking fee applies

#### Book online: www.queerscreen.com.au

Box Office: Tickets on sale now at the venue at which the session is screening.

**Booking Fees** Booking fee for all session tickets (except Opening Night) purchased via internet, or phone through MCA Tix is \$1.50 per ticket (including GST). The booking fee is reduced to \$1.00 per ticket for 10 film discount packs. No booking fees apply to tickets purchased directly from the box office of Festival Venues (excluding Opening Night). **Valid Festival Concessions** Full-time students, pensioners, NSW seniors, Healthcare cardholders, Palace Movie Club, Dendy Club and AFI members.

One concession ticket per cardholder on presentation of a valid card.

**Booking Information** Online and phone 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. All 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 regarding phone and internet ticketing to MCA Tix only. Cinema venues do not have access to MCA ticketing information. Queer Screen Membership discounts are valid for one ticket per film per cardholder.

#### The Mardi Gras Film Festival is produced by Queer Screen

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**Queer Screen Board of Directors:** Robert Judd (President), Su Goldfish (Vice-president), Jane Becker (Secretary), Robbie Baldwin, Lisa George, Katrina Marton, Sebastian Rice, Jeff Rosenthal, Victoria Treole.

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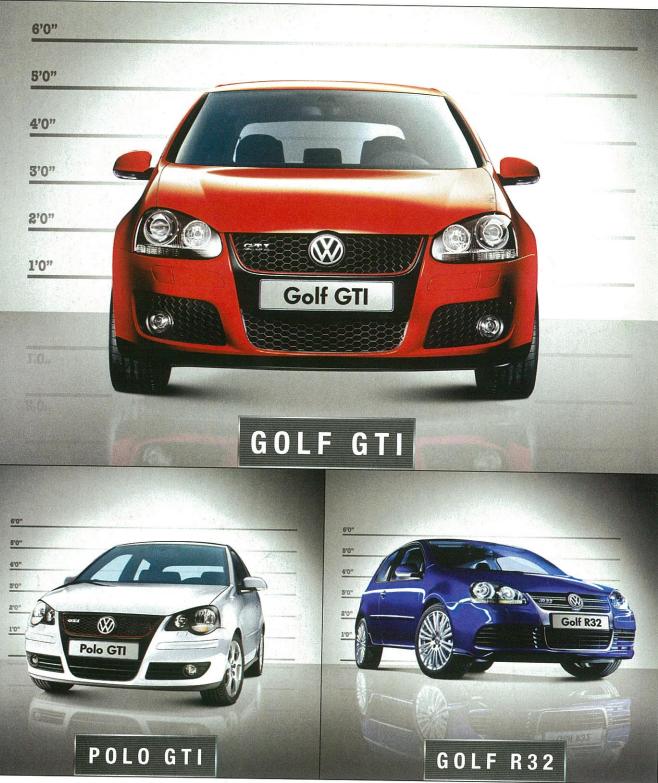
Poster Image Art Director and Design: John Henry Martin Photography: Waded Production: Lisa George, Lex Lindsay Make Up: Velalien Model: Steven Chong

#### Volunteers

The Queer Screen volunteers make this festival possible. They constantly inspire us with their enthusiasm, dedication and generosity. When you're at a Queer Screen event, the chances are the people behind the QS desk, the folk who tear your tickets and tidy up after you, the chatty bunch who posted you the festival guide or laminated your membership card are all volunteers. We'd be lost without them, so please say hi, smile, blow them a kiss, when joining us in the cinemas. If you'd like to volunteer for Queer Screen, please email info@queerscreen.com.au or give us a call.

#### Thank you

Recent escapees of QS: Simon Wellington, Leigh Barrett and Panos Couros; voluntary devotees of QS: David Williams, Elsa, Emily Parsons-Lord, Gretel Van-Lane, Mark Burrows and Matt Johnson; our latest editions: Franca Castelletti, Eva Nentwich, Peter Dierks, Davina Hobbs and Matthew Wiesner @ Volkswagen; Kiersten Fishburn and Stephen Gilby @ City Of Sydney; Will Sheehan @ wilburforce performing arts business solutions; long-term partners the NSW Film and Television Office, New Mardi Gras, Sydney Star Observer, Lesbians On The Loose; Karen Peaston @ MCATix, our colleagues, Lisa Daniels @ Melbourne Queer Film Festival, Vicci Ho @ Hong Kong L&G Film Festival, Ivan Skaines @ Rainbow Visions, Mellissa Kavenagh @ Deckchair Cinema; the krauts-and-proud @ Goethe: Klaus Krischock, Claudia Kuehn and Axel Schock; the roofs over our heads: Lisa Robertson @ City Recital Hall, Nic Whatson @ Academy Twin, Beth Deguara @ Dendy Newtown, Courtney Bottfield @ Chauvel, Francois Sauzier @ The Ritz; Our Queer Careerists: Margaret Pomeranz, Anton Enus, Helen Bowden, Ashley Luke, The Stephen Cummins Trust, Josh Pomeranz @ Spectrum Films, Natalie Gibbs @ Tourism NT, Marit Ligthart & Wouter Barendrecht at Fortissimo, Paul Jackson @ Panavision, Helen Field @ Soundfirm, Polly Staniford @ IF Magazine, Lien Aguilar @ SBS; the sources: Simone Ubaldi @ Force, Marilyn Greig @ Imagine, Geoff Cooke @ Eagle, Paul De Carvalho @ 20th Century Fox, Greg Denning @ Icon, Paul Tonta @ Madman, Jude Troy @ Hopscotch, Jerrod Crim @ Paramount; the Jury: Matt Broadie, Miranda Dear, Victoria Treole, Troy Lum, our community kindred: Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby, ACON, our magnificent volunteers and our loyal, generous members and donors for all their support in the past year.



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