

**MARDI
GRAS/
FILM
FESTIVAL/08**

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**14-28
FEBRUARY**

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

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BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY'S
HEALTH & WELLBEING



from the Director

Welcome to the 2008 Mardi Gras Film Festival. This year we present a bouquet of celluloid flowers, bursting into blossom for you to enjoy. As always, we've harvested the best in show.

We raise the curtain with a 100 percent Australian **My Queer Career** on Valentine's Day. Our massive opening party at the City Recital Hall will have over 1000 potential dates in attendance, please join us in this grand celebration of queer love.

The many gardens of **MGFF'08** are almost as diverse as our community itself. You can't go past the **PERENNIAL** favourites, with a romantic comedy for every taste it will be Valentine's Day every day of this festival. Our **POLY-NATION** program draws together the best of queer world cinema, from South Africa to Spain, Italy to Israel, and a bounty of exquisite new works from France, this is your entry point into the global movement of gay and lesbian filmmaking. If you like your cinema lush and juicy, take a look at the **SUCCULENTS** where sexuality blossoms and sensuality blooms. The Chinese New Year sessions in this program are exceptional, don't miss "Solos", controversially banned in its home country.

On the left-of-centre side of the program, we have the **HYBRIDS**, cross-pollinating musicals with strip shows, exotics with esoterics, and mixing up media. Something darker perhaps...? Have a taste of the **NIGHTSHADES**, from Zombie erotica to conspiracy theories, Hit-men to Stalkers, they're creepy and delicious, with the first international screening of the new Bruce La Bruce film at their dark and dirty heart.

Expose yourself to some reality with the documentaries in **THE GLASSHOUSE** including the Australian premiere of "A Jihad For Love", the Director and Producer are our festival guests. Be sure to sample the astounding variety of short films in our **BONSAI** garden, there are so many gems to be uncovered in this emerging mix. And as parenthood and families dominate the thoughts of many in our community, we've included a **NURSERY** full of queer kids and the kids of queers to warm your heart.

Pick yourself a posy of the bloomin' beautiful varieties this queer world has to offer.

Love n Lite
Lex Lindsay
Festival Director

from the President

Welcome to the 15th annual Mardi Gras Film Festival, presented by Queer Screen. 2008 ushers in a significant milestone for our community, as we marks the 30th anniversary of the first Mardi Gras protest march. This is a time for remembrance and celebration.

I'd like to congratulate our friends at New Mardi Gras for carrying what has become one of the world's iconic parades into its 30th year. Queer Screen, as producer of the Mardi Gras Film Festival has long been a central part of the Mardi Gras festival calendar. It is with great pride that we present one of the season's most successful and enduring stand-alone events.

We warmly welcome our principal sponsor Volkswagen Group Australia, for their second year with Queer Screen. We are particularly thankful to The City of Sydney who return with increased support in 2008, and have committed to sponsoring our acclaimed My Queer Career Awards as the festival's opening until 2010. And we couldn't throw such a fantastic party without the help of our friends at the City Recital Hall, Angel Place.

Our thanks also to long-term supporters the NSW Film and Television Office, who this year have doubled their investment in Queer Screen.

JCDecaux will again light up the streets of Sydney with Mardi Gras Film Festival posters on street-furnishings across the inner-city - we just love making their bus shelters look fabulous!

I acknowledge and thank our community partners ACON and Aurora Group, and our media partner SSO.

A feature of our 2008 program particularly close to my heart is our special satellite festival in Parramatta. We are delighted to be working with the Riverside Theatre to present this event, and encourage queers of the west to join us for what is sure to be a memorable and moving weekend of the 'best of the fest - way out west.'

Finally, I congratulate our Festival Director, Lex Lindsay and the Queer Screen team on the fantastic feast of film we are all about to enjoy. Our staff, board and volunteers work tirelessly to bring you an exciting and engaging event, and I know you will be intrigue and challenged by this year's program.

Please join us for our wonderful festival and enjoy and celebrate the richness and diversity of who we are.

I look forward to seeing you in the dark.

Katrina Márton
President

Principle Partner



Media Partner



Major Partners



Festival Partners



PALACE ACADEMY TWIN

RIVERSIDE PARAMATTA

DENDY NEWTOWN

CRH	HTZ	Opening: My Queer Career Closing: 2 Sides of the Bed	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		A 4 Letter Word	6																						
		Born Bam & Celeste	9																						
		Before I Forget	9																						
		Breakfast with Scott	17																						
		The Bubble	19																						
		El Celanito	17																						
		Celluloid Salon	17																						
		Clapham Junction	6																						
		East Side Story	18																						
		Euro-Visions	10																						
		Fin's Girl	22																						
		Fun In Boys' Shorts	19																						
		Hetu Koi (First Love)	22																						
		The House Boy	15																						
		A Jihad For Love	15																						
		King Size	26																						
		Kiss The Bride	12																						
		Kraut and Out	9																						
		Love My Life	22																						
		Man Of My Life	9																						
		My Super 8 Season	17																						
		Naked Boys Singing	15																						
		Otto	12																						
		Out of the Wedding	18																						
		Outing Riley	10																						
		The Picture of Dorian Gray	10																						
		Right By Me	12																						
		Riparo (Shelter)	10																						
		Saturno Confini	17																						
		She-Larious Shorts	24																						
		Shelter	10																						
		Solos	15																						
		Spider Lilies	5:20																						
		Spinini	5:20																						
		Small Town Boys	6:30																						
		Surveillance	19																						
		Tales from Israel	24																						
		This Kiss	18																						
		Tick Tock Lullaby	10																						
		Times Have Been Better	6:30																						
		U & Me & Tennessee	19																						
		Village Romance	26																						
		Vivere	17																						
		You Belong To Me	26																						
		Butch Jamie	18																						
		El Celanito	9																						
		Della	17																						
		Don't Go	15																						
		Fin's Girl	12																						
		Jam	9:00																						
		Otto	19																						
		Seola	26																						
		soulaid	18																						
		Spider Lilies	15																						
		Tick Tock Lullaby	12																						
		Vampire Diary	19																						
		Vivere	18																						
		Wild Kingdom	17																						
		World Unseen	12																						
		Beat of Bonnet	22																						
		Breakfast with Scott	17																						
		The Bubble	19																						
		Clapham Junction	18																						
		Gemas Of Love	24																						
		Love My Life	9																						
		Out of the Wedding	4:30																						
		Shelter	10																						
		Times Have Been Better	7:00																						

VENUES

CITY RECITAL HALL (CRH)

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

RIVERSIDE THEATRE

Corner Church and Market Streets, Parramatta
Box office hours: 9am-5pm Mon-Fri
Wheelchair access provided

RANDWICK RITZ

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

A photograph of a woman lying on her back on a grassy field at night. She is wearing a red top and a grey skirt. A woman in a pink top is kneeling over her, performing CPR. A plastic bottle and a blue bag are on the grass nearby. The background shows a crowd of people at a festival.

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SPECIAL EVENTS

OPENING NIGHT

My Queer Career 2008

Australia's premiere celebration of locally produced queer film sets the fest in motion in a grand and glamorous style. Join our host Bernie Hobbs at The City Recital Hall, Angel Place, for the country's queerest film industry awards night. Ticket price includes films, awards ceremony and gala opening party over three levels.

The nine shorts in the running for the My Queer Career Crown are:

LOVE BITE, 3 min, directed by Craig Boreham
MIRROR MIRROR, 10 min, directed by John Winter
SEXY THING, 15 min, directed by Denie Pentecost
PARADISE, 9 min, directed by Mark Robinson
LOVE IS LOVE, 7 min, directed by Anne Renton
SINGLE SEXY BILINGUAL, 14 min, directed by Barbara Karpinski
EVERYTHING WE ARE, 8 min, directed by Mark Robinson
MY LAST 10 HOURS WITH YOU, 15 min, directed by Sophie Hyde
ASCENSION, 14 min, directed by Stephen Irwin

Presented in partnership with the City Of Sydney.

February 14, 7:30pm
City Recital Hall, Angel Place

PARRAMATTA PROGRAM

We're turning the West 'Way Out'. It's a mini Mardi Gras at the Riverside, Parramatta, with seven sessions of the festival's best and two exclusive shorts programs over one weekend. People of the west, save yourself the train fare and tolls, we're coming to you!! Join us for the Parramatta opening on the 15th (yes, that's two opening nights in a row this year...) then prepare yourself for a weekend glued to the screen. Flip to the calendar for more details.

February 15, 16 and 17
Riverside Theatre, Parramatta.

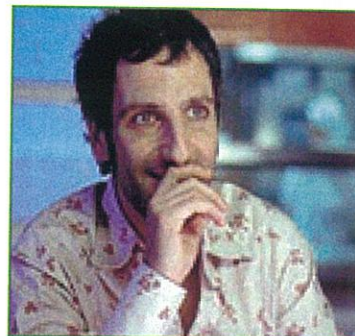


CLOSING NIGHT

The 2 Sides of the Bed

Spain, 2006, 108 minutes
Director: Emilio Martinez-lazaro

This vividly rendered and thoroughly enjoyable film puts a sit-com twist on the old Freud-ism "well, we're all bisexual aren't we?" Javier is about to marry Marta and their best friends Pedro and Raquel are thinking of taking the plunge next. But unbeknownst to the men, the two women are madly in love and planning a union of their own. When Marta ditches Javier at the, he moves in with Pedro, who is soon abandoned by Raquel, and the guys find themselves propositioned by the alluring Carlota who's keen on a threesome. What follows is a fast-paced, very funny, very musical (characters spontaneously break into revamped versions of Spanish pop hits) romantic comedy with a poly-amorous flavour.



Thursday Feb 28, 7:30pm
Ritz Cinema, Randwick

CELLULOID SALON

We call it 'the best of the rest' of the My Queer Career competition, but it's a stellar program of Australian queer shorts in its own right, and should not be missed. A decidedly queer cop is on *THE BEAT* to clean up the city streets; A gay couple have trouble *WORKING IT OUT* when they vie over the hunk at the gym; *ROPE BURN* is only one of the consequences of a love triangle on the flying trapeze; and a new craze is sweeping Sydney, it's *FRONT BUM DANCING*.

DUCK SOUP, 3 min, directed by Kathryn Goldie;
THE BEAT, 9 min, directed by Dean Francis;
WALNUT, 11 min, directed by Amy Gebhardt;
WORKING IT OUT, 7 min, directed by Tim Hunter;
THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN BUSH, 15 min, directed by Daniel Jones;
HOW TO BURY THE DEAD, 8 min, directed by Charles Bracewell;
ROPE BURN, 9 min, directed by Melvin Montalban;
FRONT BUM DANCING; 8 min, directed by Tonette Stanford;
LICORICE, 8 min, directed by Peter Scobie;
CHECKING IN, 12 min, directed by Lisa Hill.

Sunday February 24, 5:20pm
Palace Academy Twin

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A FOUR LETTER WORD

U.S.A, 2007, 87min Director: Casper Andreas

Welcome to the Gaybourhood! Set in Manhattan, this fun, sexy romantic comedy revolves around five New Yorkers exploring sexuality, relationships and their neighbours' bodies.

Promiscuous Luke contemplates monogamy with ultra hot hustler

Stephen. Long-time lovers Peter and Derek struggle with moving in together while activist Zeke tries to change the world one confrontation at a time. Meanwhile, Peter's boss Marilyn freaks out as her wedding draws closer and her AA sponsor, Trisha, declares her love. A spin-off of Andreas' 2004 *SLUTTY SUMMER*, this must-see film is a bundle of energy and fun.



Sunday Feb 17, 9:30pm

Monday Feb 25, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

BAM BAM AND CELESTE

USA, 2006, 100 min Director: Lorene Machado

This whacky rags-to-riches road-movie, sees best friends Celeste (Margaret Cho) and Bam Bam (Bruce Daniels) escape their middle-American hometown in search of fame and fortune in the Big Apple. Both victims of obscure and quirky fashion addictions, they've been selected for the make-over TV show "Trading Faces". Unfortunately they come head-to-head in a reality TV battle against their high school nemeses - the cool kids turned world-famous operators of the Salon Mirage. Written by and starring Margaret Cho, who will be in town for Mardi Gras.



Tuesday Feb 26, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

KISS THE BRIDE

USA. 2007. 97 min. Director: C Jay Cox.

In high school, everyone thought Matt and Ryan were best friends, when in truth, they were boyfriends. Ten years later the guys have grown apart, but it still comes as a surprise when Matt receives an invitation to Ryan's wedding. Even more surprising - he's marrying a woman! Matt puts his big city A-Gay life on hold to rush back to their small hometown to free his first-love from the woman who has entrapped him. Is fiancé Alex (played by Tori Spelling) a cunning coquette or could she actually be adorable enough to turn a man straight...? Matt knows there's only one way to find out.

Sunday Feb 17, 7:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

LOVE MY LIFE

Japan, 2007, 97 min Director: Koji Kawano

The film opens with 20-year-old Eri and Ichiko in bed together. They look pretty happy and things go pretty well for them. Ichiko lives with her father and, deciding to come out to him, is shocked to find that he is gay and has a secret lover. Adapted from a manga animation, this cute, indie-rock-infused romance has an honest and upbeat flavour that avoids the pitfalls and stereotypes of many "first love" features.

Saturday Feb 16, 4:30pm

Riverside Theatre, Parramatta

Friday Feb 22, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

BUTCH JAMIE

USA, 2007, 85 min Director: Michelle Ehlen

Dressing up as "Femme Jamie" for auditions, struggling actress Jamie Klein (writer/director Michelle Ehlen) continually faces rejection as she fails to be a typical leading lady. When she decides to take a different approach and audition as herself - aka "Butch Jamie" - she lands a part playing a man. At first offended, Jamie accepts the role and soon begins to enjoy herself in her new alter-ego "Male Jamie". The plot thickens when Jamie unintentionally piques the interests of a sexy yet straight woman on set.

Tuesday Feb 19, 7pm

Dendy Newtown

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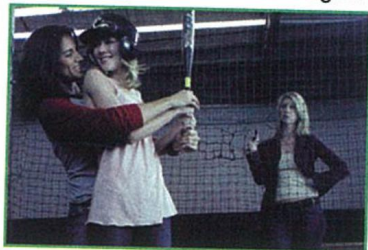
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OUT AT THE WEDDING

USA, 2007, 96 min
Director: Lee Friedlander

Alex has an itsy bitsy problem with telling the truth. Her tangled web leads her to upstaging her sister's wedding by pretending to be gay and engaged to a woman. Then her best friend Jonathon thickens the plot by hiring the sexy Risa to pose as her partner with unexpected consequences. **OUT AT THE WEDDING** has all the elements of a great sit-com, where layers of secrets and slapstick wrap themselves into a plot so twisted you can't help but squirm while you giggle.



Friday Feb 15, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

Sunday Feb 17, 7pm

Riverside Theatre, Parramatta

OUTING RILEY

USA, 2007, 86 min
Director: Pete Jones

Riley is one of four Irish catholic brothers in Chicago. All have left home and none of them know Riley is gay. In this heartwarming tale of acceptance, family and friends, Riley decides it is time to come out. Director Pete Jones was an unemployed aspiring filmmaker when his script, **STOLEN SUMMER**, won the first Project Greenlight competition in 2002. His follow up, **OUTING RILEY** is even better.

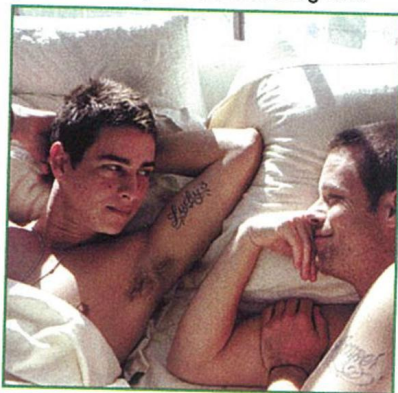
Tuesday Feb 19, 7:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

SHELTER

USA, 2007, 90 min
Director: Jonah Markowitz

A gay surfer film, need we go on...? Zack has had to sacrifice his art school dreams to help his sister raise her son. Life isn't all bad however. He spends his days skateboarding and surfing on California's picturesque coast, joined by Shaun, his best friend's older brother, back in town from a stint in Hollywood. It's not long before the two find themselves sleeping on the beach in each others' arms, and the difficulties of a gay romance in San Pedro begin to play on their lives. This is the first film to come out of a new production initiative at the US cable network Here!, and it proves they are fulfilling their commitment to bringing authentic queer stories to our screens.



Saturday Feb 16, 7pm

Riverside Theatre, Parramatta

Saturday Feb 16, 5:20pm

Tuesday Feb 26, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

THIS KISS

Australia, 2006, 65 min
Director: Kylie Eddy

Is there an old school mate or friend that you secretly desired? What would happen if you met them again after a number of years? Australian Kylie Eddy, whose short film **COMING OUT AT WORK IS HARD TO DO** was a big hit in My Queer Career, tackles that subject. Juliet is a successful businesswoman, Lucy is a happily married stay-at-home mum. What Juliet visits Lucy for a reunion meeting, the real facts behind their seemingly happy lives start to evolve. Out come the secrets and more in a boozy afternoon. Screening in conjunction with:



MY FIRST TIME DRIVING

USA 2007, 18 min
Director: Rebecca Feldman

Rachel has a new driver's license and a new girl, but mum is not keen to let go.

Sunday Feb 17, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

RIGHT BY ME

Thailand, 2007, 100 min
Director: Thanyatorn Siwanukrow

This adorable love triangle focuses on three characters. There is Nat, the flamboyant and out gay man who is occasionally bashed for his homosexuality. Tat, his best friend, is yet to tell his parents that he is gay. And then there is Ek, the basketball player and school sports hero that all the girls and guys lust after. He has a girlfriend, but seems less and less drawn to her and even ends up at a gay pride meeting. The story is based on Mexican-American Alex Sanchez' books **Rainbow Boys**. It is a refreshingly honest and rather cute film from a country that is better known for the gay stereotypes of **IRON LADIES** and other katoxy films.

Sunday Feb 24, 3:00pm

Palace Academy Twin

EAST SIDE STORY

USA, 2006, 88 Min
Director: Carlos Portugal

When making a film about the Latino-American gay experience where else would you turn for subversive inspiration but **West Side Story**? In this, the very funny and very sweet East LA reworking, we meet Diego, slaving in the family restaurant, living with his grandmother, and doing his best to conduct a clandestine affair with the macho straight-acting Pablo. Meanwhile, WASP gay couples are taking over the neighbourhood, snapping up the cheap real estate. Hunky Wesley moves in next door and into Diego's heart, but can this inter-racial gay couple survive bitchy exes, financial differences and social prejudice?

Friday Feb 22, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin



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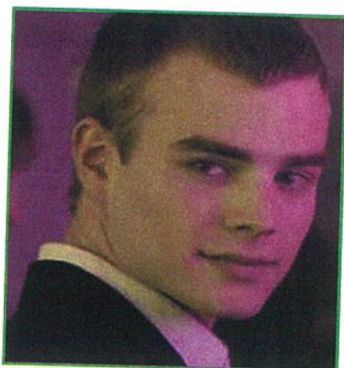


THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY

USA, 2006, 100 min

Director: Duncan Roy

We're all familiar with this literary master and its potent warning against vanity in excess. In this post-modern screen version, Oscar Wilde's infamous tale has been transported from the decadence of 1890s London to the indulgence of Manhattan today. Here it is the drug taking, promiscuity and fast-fashion world of pretty boys with alluring looks and expensive clothes that fights to halt the clock and remain forever young.



Saturday Feb 16, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

KING SIZE

France, 2007, 59 mins

Director: Patrick Maurin

Life is pretty good for Vincent and Nicolas. They have lived together happily for 10 years and their families are cool about their relationship. Then they meet the younger sexy Gabriel and decide to give life as a threesome a try. *KING SIZE* takes a fresh look, with humour and frequent song and dance routines, at the issues and challenges faced in life as a threesome. Marie Myriam, France's last Eurovision song contest winner, stars as one of the lovers' mother.

Screening in conjunction with:

I HATE MUSICALS

USA, 2007, 19 min

A comedy about love and music.

Best Live Action Film Palm Springs International Short Film Festival

Monday Feb 18, 7:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

NAKED BOYS SINGING

USA, 2007, 85min

Director: Bob Schrock, Troy Christian

What is advertised is what you get, a group of attractive boys, naked, onstage singing (and dancing - yikes!). With hits like *Naked Maid*, *Members Only* and *The Bliss of a Bris*, it's every musical queen's wet-dream. This off-Broadway musical has sold out on stages around the world. Now the Los Angeles cast have come together to film this eye-popping screen version of the live show, replete with close-ups!

Saturday Feb 16, 7:30pm

Monday Feb 25, 7:30pm

Palace Academy Twin



SOULMAID

USA, 2007, 95 min

Director: Maccubin / McHale / Mohr / Steiff / Winslow

Without question, this is the weirdest film of the festival. Young Moses makes a living cleaning the apartments of wealthy gay men in his underwear. During an epilepsy-induced vision he is visited by Glintentica, a spurned goddess preparing for her second coming and in need of help. Can the man of his dreams, David, bring Moses back to reality? Or will he submit to the evil plans of a drag-demi-god? Presented in five chapters, each created by a different writer-director, *SOULMAID* will surprise you as often as it baffles you. Think *I HEART HUCKABEES* crossed with *ANGELS IN AMERICA* with a *SOUTH PARK* bent. Sound strange? It is.



Wednesday Feb 20, 9pm

Dendy Newtown

IN SEARCH OF THE WILD KINGDOM

USA 2007, 60 min

Director: Shine Louise Houston

A documentary team go through the streets of San Francisco looking for the most raw and compelling lesbian sex they can find. Includes queer sexuality, femme on femme, one stud boi and transguy action. Screening in conjunction with:

GIVE PIECE OF ASS A CHANCE

Canada 2007 15 mins

Director: Bruce La Bruce

Gay bad boy Bruce La Bruce tries his hand at lesbian love.

GOOD DYKE PORN

Canada, 2007, 23 min

Director: Bren Ryder

Amateur actors try their hand at making good dyke porn.

HOT SEAT

USA, 2007, 8 min

Director: Micki Poklar

A steamy study in self indulgence

Tuesday Feb 19, 9pm

Dendy Newtown

DON'T GO

USA, 2007, 90 min

Director: Amber Sharp

In the tradition of "queer as folk" and the "L Word", we now have the gay version of "Melrose Place". Meet six residents of an LA apartment block, living and loving in the 21st Century. This TV show bends all the rules of your traditional serial drama with a mixed race cast, a transgendered lead, lesbians and bisexual men aplenty and some off-beat story lines designed to make you think. We're delighted to present the first two instalments of this new tele-treat before any Aussie networks have picked it up.

Sunday Feb 24, 5pm

Dendy Newtown

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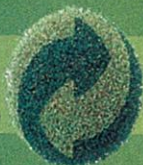
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Fabulous New Showroom

DOLLS (PUSINKY)

Czech Republic, 2007, 99 Min
Director: Karin Babinská

This brave and somewhat confronting film chronicles the moment adolescence ends and adulthood begins for three Czech girls. They've just graduated and Vendula, Karolina and Iska are determined to make their final summer together last. They secretly sign up for jobs on a farm in Holland and start a hitch-hiking journey across Europe. Along the way their behaviour becomes increasingly dangerous as they plot to outdo each other in grown-up escapades, putting themselves, their psyches and their friendship at risk. Unrequited love, sexual manipulation, and spiteful trickery are the key players in this emotional game of chicken, delivered with an intense gravity by the superb young actors.

Monday Feb 18, 9:00pm
Dendy Newtown

HATSU KOI (FIRST LOVE)

Japan, 2007, 97 min
Director: Imaizumi Koichi

High school student Tadashi is secretly in love with classmate Kota, but says nothing. Other classmates start calling Tadashi "fag" and Kota starts avoiding him. Deeply hurt and depressed, one day Tadashi spots a gay couple on the train. Strangely drawn to them he follows them and, when they split, follows one into a gent's toilet. This is a wonderful look at burgeoning sexuality in Japan with a true understanding of desire, love and friendship. This is the third film we have presented by Imaizumi Koichi.

Wed Feb 20, 7:30pm
Palace Academy Twin

THE HOUSEBOY

USA, 2007, 85 min
Director: Spencer Schilly

Boy toy Ricky has been living with an older gay couple for a year in a very happy menage a trois. The couple are going away for the holidays and, just before they go, he overhears them saying that it is time they got a new boy. Ricky goes looking for fun while his couple are away and embarks on a rush of sex, drugs and men. This is a quirky and memorable drama, well written and directed by Spencer Schilly. "THE HOUSEBOY is a gritty, unexpected gem brimming with heart, soul and unflinching honesty" *Chicago Lesbian & Gay Film Festival*.

Friday Feb 15, 7:30pm
Palace Academy Twin

MY SUPER 8 SEASON (MA SAISON SUPER 8)

France, 2005, 71 min
Director: Alessandro Avellis

It's 1970 and revolution is rising in the streets of Paris. With his gay liberation committee booted out of the larger radical student movement ("Pederasty is a bourgeois perversion" they claim), Marc decides to mount his own queer-inclusive revolution, not without a little comrade bed-hopping along the way. Inspired by the FHAR (Homosexual Revolution Action Front) and their true clashes with their socialist and feminist counterparts, MY SUPER 8 SEASON is a well crafted period piece with a quirky bent, sexy cast, and some fire in the belly.

Thursday Feb 21, 6:30pm
Palace Academy Twin

Driven by Volkswagen

SPIDER LILIES

Taiwan, 2007, 94 min
Director: Zero Chou

Angel-faced Jade is a rising star of the webcam world who seeks to spice up her performances with a new tattoo. When she meets brooding tattoo artist Takeko she is instantly smitten and drawn to the mysterious flowers etched on her arm. This Spider Lily tattoo unlocks their entwined history and the secret to overcoming their troubled past. Revealed through artful plot sequencing with occasional animation, set against a stunning rural backdrop, SPIDER LILIES is a sumptuous mix of drama and comedy infused with both innocence and sensuality. Winner of the Teddy for Best GLBT film at the 2007 Berlin International Film Festival.



Presented in partnership with the
City Of Sydney's Chinese New Year.

Monday Feb 18, 6:30pm
Palace Academy Twin
Monday Feb 25, 7:00pm
Dendy Newtown



SOLOS

Singapore, 2006, 77 min
Director: Kan Lume / Loo Zihan

Too controversial for the Singapore Film Festival, this film was inspired by the true story of a teacher-student relationship. Man and boy struggle with their mutual desire, while the boy's mother rages with depression. The film explores love, desire, pain, and the confusion of family life. Kan Lume and Loo Zihan's second effort is daring and adventurous. Striking colour contrasts convey emotion in this film that uses surrealism in place of dialogue.



Presented in partnership with the
City Of Sydney's Chinese New Year.

Sunday Feb 17, 5:20pm
Palace Academy Twin



SONJA

Germany, 2006, 73 min, Video
Director: Kirs Marie Liimatainen

It's summer and Sonja is restless. Her mother is a nag, her boyfriend is dull, and her best friend Julia is achingly sexy. As her friends brag about their adolescent conquests, and Julia beats the boys off with a stick, Sonja searches for something more meaningful. She finds it in the intimacy of Julia's companionship, but can't keep pretending they're just best friends. A beautifully executed first feature, SONJA elegantly captures a coming of age story with a rare, almost serene wisdom.



Thursday Feb 21, 7pm
Dendy Newtown

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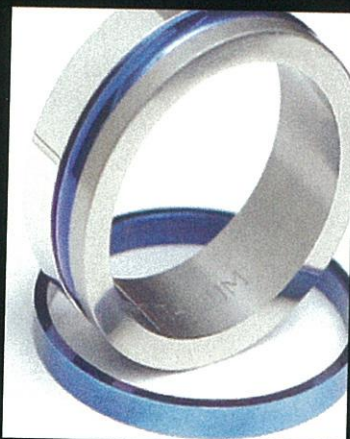
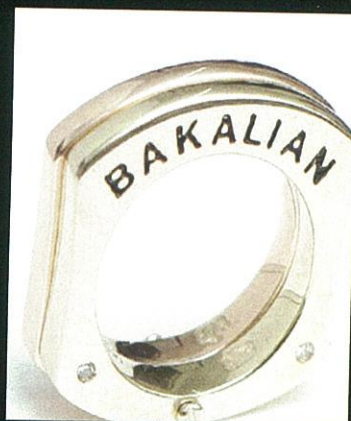
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THE BUBBLE

Israel, 2006, 117 min
Director: Eytan Fox

This superb film is a gay *Romeo & Juliet* set in modern Tel Aviv. Noam is an Israeli completing his military service on the West Bank, crossing paths with Palestinian, Ashraf. When the pair reunite in "the bubble" of Tel Aviv they find romance in a culture where such liaisons are extremely taboo. This beautiful, funny and tragic love story comes from leading Israeli director Eytan Fox (YOSSI & JAGGER).

Friday Feb 15, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

Sunday Feb 17, 9:00pm

Riverside Theatre Parramatta

BEFORE I FORGET (AVANT QUE J'OUBLIE)

France, 2007, 108 min
Director: Jacques Nolot

Pierre (director/writer/actor Jacques Nolot) is a 58-year-old journalist and former rent boy who has writers block. His boyfriend has recently left him and he rambles around his apartment naked, pissing in the sink, and ordering young call-boys for blow jobs. He sees a shrink three times a week - a younger gay man who encourages his sexual liaisons with hookers, and meets with other aging ex-prostitutes in elegant and witty scenes that reveal details of his life. A thought provoking look at a man who now has enough money to afford the men he always wanted, but is no longer sure what he wants from life.

Tuesday Feb 19, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin



EL CALENTITO

Spain 2006, 89 min
Director: Chus Gutiérrez

A military coup is taking place in the streets of Madrid outside, but in the underground club El Calentito there's an other revolution going on. Presided over by motherly tranny Antonia, filled with a clientele of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, straights and everything in between, El Calentito is a punk oasis in the shifting sands of Spain in the 80s. Straight-laced Sarah discovers more than just refuge from her oppressive mother in this nightclub - there's sex, drugs and a girl band call La Sioux. After a big night our Sarah awakens to find herself in one of the band members' beds and the latest addition to the group. From princess to punk in 24 hours, but is Sarah really ready for the rock n roll life of La Sioux?

Wednesday Feb 27, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

THE MAN OF MY LIFE (L'HOMME DE SA VIE)

France, 2006, 114 min
Director: Zabou Breitman

A family vacation sets the scene for one man's personal awakening. When he meets Hugo, the gay neighbour to his idyllic holiday home, Frédéric finds himself helplessly torn. Taunted by Hugo's free sexuality, the young men he flaunts and his nightly skinny dipping, yet enthralled in a genuine meeting of minds, Frédéric's focus shifts from his wife and kids to a building obsession with the man next door. Among the profusion of delicious French titles in this year's festival, *THE MAN OF MY LIFE* stands out for its faultless performances, stunningly photographed setting, and delicately delivered story.

Monday Feb 18, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

Driven by Volkswagen

SATURNO CONTRO (SATURN IN OPPOSITION)

Italy, 2007, 110 min
Director: Ferzan Ozpetek

Gay characters adorn the films of Ferzan Ozpetek. From *HAMAM* *THE TURKISH BATH* to *LE FAIT IGNORATI* he has gay and straight characters living and loving alongside each other. In *SATURNO CONTRO*, a group of friends now edging towards their 40s have managed to remain a tight knit group throughout the changes in their lives. They gather in the home of 40ish fairytale writer Davide and his handsome boyfriend Lorenzo, 10 years his junior. The friends are a diverse bunch who have been carefully developed with very distinct personalities and desires. This beautifully directed ensemble drama traces the effect of an illness of one of their number and how it affects them. The cast, several of whom have been in previous Ozpetek films, are superb.

Thursday Feb 21, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

RIPARO (SHELTER)

Italy, 2007, 100 min
Director: Marco Simon Puccioni

Anna and Mara return from a holiday in Tunisia to discover a young Arab man hidden in the boot of their car. They have unwittingly smuggled an illegal immigrant into Italy. As Anna insists they take care of the boy, the underlying tensions in the women's relationship begin to surface. The trio find themselves playing into an odd set of family roles - mother, sister, child; while their curious adoptee continues to wonder why two unmarried women would choose to sleep in the same bed.

Wednesday Feb 20, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

VIVERE (LIVING)

Germany, 2007, 97 min
Director: Angelina Maccarone

On Christmas Eve, three women are on the run. Francesca is hunting her rebellious kid sister who has fled to Rotterdam with her rock star boyfriend, on the way she pulls Gerlinde from a car crash and finds herself with an unexpected companion on the journey. These three spend the next 48 hours looking for each other, themselves and some hope in the disorder of their lives. Unfolding in three chapters, each reflecting the subtle differences in each woman's perception of the events, this sophisticated, engrossing film resonates with a depth of insight into its characters.

Saturday Feb 23, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

Monday Feb 25, 9:00pm

Dendy Newtown

WORLD UNSEEN

South Africa / UK, 2007, 110 min
Director: Shamim Sarif

Written, directed, financed and produced entirely by women, this film is as unorthodox in its creation as the story it tells. Set in South Africa in the 50's, the *WORLD UNSEEN* is equal parts charming romance and political social commentary. Miriam and Amina are two very different Indian women migrated to Pretoria, the birthplace of apartheid. Amina is independent, irrepressible and proudly single, running a café with a black business partner. Miriam is a dutiful, traditional British Indian housewife. The attraction between them is palpable, dripping with longing looks, and eventually comes to a head when Amina hides Miriam's sister-in-law from the police (mixed-race marriages are being outlawed) and the pair are united in a dramatic chain of events.

Wednesday Feb 27, 7:00pm

Dendy Newtown



CLAPHAM JUNCTION



UK, 2007, 90 min
Director: Adrian Shergold

A 14 year old boy lusts after his neighbour at the reception party for a gay wedding. Meanwhile, a married man flashes his jewels in a local cottage and a waiter enjoys a quickie out the back. An author has his script for a gay movie turned down and a young man adjusts his package before venturing out to the gay bars. The lives of these people interact in often unexpected ways over a 36 hour period close to London's infamous Clapham Common, culminating in some devastating consequences.

Warning: Violence may disturb.

Sat Feb 16, 9pm

Riverside Theatre, Parramatta

Saturday Feb 23, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

OTTO; OR, UP WITH DEAD PEOPLE



USA / Germany, 2008, 95 min
Director: Bruce La Bruce

We have not yet seen this film. The website (www.ottothezombie.de) describes it thus "Please allow me to introduce myself, I'm a boy of no wealth and some distaste. My name is Otto. I unlive in Berlin sometimes, sometimes farther north, depending on mood. Then again, I only have one mood: dead. Undead. I find it difficult to make an unliving because I am homeless. I recently starred in a movie called OTTO, made by a crazy lesbian avant-garde filmmaker named Medea Yarn. She paid me a little, but I'm waiting for the royalties. You'll have to excuse me for now. I have to go eat some roadkill. A bientot. x Otto."

As far as we can tell, this film features plenty of gore, nudity, young men engaging in vampiric behaviour, and it's made by one of our favourites, Bruce La Bruce, which is reason enough for us to include it in the fest.

Tuesday Feb 26, 9pm

Dendy Newtown

Wednesday Feb 27, 9:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

SURVEILLANCE

UK, 2007, 86 min
Director: Paul Oremland

Adam beds and boozes his way through the vibrant London gay scene. After his latest trick is dredged from the Thames, Adam finds himself entangled in a conspiracy of royal proportions. The powers-that-be will stop at nothing to hide the heir to the throne's sexuality. Adam is on the run in an attempt to prove his innocence, but how can you hide in a city under constant surveillance?



Sunday Feb 24, 9:30pm
Palace Academy Twin



VAMPIRE DIARY

UK, 2006, 88 min
Director: Mark James / Phil O'Shea

Squeamish viewers beware! Goth filmmaker and "weekend vampire" Holly gets more than she bargained for when she hooks up with the new love of her life. Vicki doesn't just dress up as a vampire, she is one, and Holly will stop at nothing to keep her. This *BLAIR WITCH* style film is a seductive journey into an erotic underworld full of excitement and teeth-chattering horror.

Tuesday Feb 26, 7pm
Dendy Newtown

YOU BELONG TO ME

USA, 2007, 82 min
Director: Sam Zalutsky

What happens when the stalker becomes the stalked? Jeffrey is obsessed with his delicious bed-buddy René, and secretly moves in to the same apartment building. Little does he realise, while he's keeping tabs on the object of his affections, someone is watching his every move. Delightfully unnerving, there's a creepiness to *YOU BELONG TO ME* that lovers of the psycho-drama genre will find very satisfying.



Friday Feb 22, 7:30pm
Palace Academy Twin



BREAKFAST WITH SCOT



Canada, 2007, 90 min
Director: Laurie Lynd

Macho sports commentator Eric is in the closet. Hiding his boyfriend was hard. Staying in the closet was even harder when 11 year old Scot, the girliest boy in Canada, moved in. Scot's love of all things pink and frilly freaks Eric and Sam out, and that's just the tip of the iceberg. This side-splitting macho vs camp comedy is a must see. Don't forget to bring a date, or your husband.

Sun Feb 17, 4:30pm
Riverside Theatre, Parramatta
Saturday Feb 23, 7:30pm
Palace Academy Twin

FINN'S GIRL

Canada, 2007, 88 min
Director: Dominique Cardona / Laurie Colbert

When Finn's partner dies, she takes custody of her daughter Zelly, a precocious, naughty but adorable pre-teen. The pair do their best to watch out for each other but Finn's demanding work in an abortion clinic gradually overtakes her ability to be a responsible parent - Finn is being stalked by religious fanatics who are threatening both her clinic and her life. Finn and Zelly spiral towards destruction as they try to deal with their grief, constant police surveillance, and the rebellious streak within them both.

Monday Feb 18, 7:00pm
Dendy Newtown
Sunday Feb 24, 6:30pm
Palace Academy Twin

SPINNIN'

Spain, 2007, 109 min
Director: Eusebio Pastrana

Garate and Omar want a baby. A young gay couple in Barcelona, they strike out trying to find a surrogate mother. Then they meet Raquel. Pregnant, lost and searching for meaning in her life, Raquel bursts into their lives with neurotic exuberance and the three form a family. This is a delightful film with a wealth of entertaining sub-plots, kooky supporting characters, heart-warming antics and a total of 101 queer kisses.

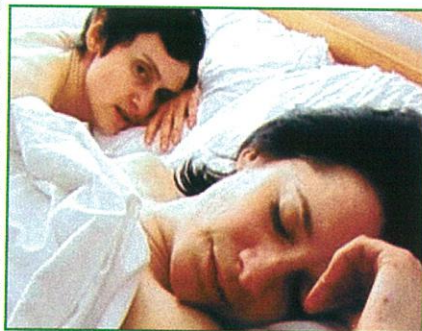


Wednesday Feb 20, 9:30pm
Palace Academy Twin

TICK TOCK LULLABY

U.K, 2006, 73 min
Director: Lisa Gornick

Sasha wants to have a baby but isn't so keen on the ways of getting one. Her partner Maya agrees to parenthood, but only on the condition that conception is achieved the 'natural way'. Their experience is juxtaposed by another two attempts towards parenthood - a single woman who



is luring men for their sperm, and a married straight couple who can't seem to get it right. Wry, witty and tremendously honest, *TICK TOCK LULLABY* is a no-nonsense take on the business-end of baby-making.

Saturday Feb 16, 6:30pm
Palace Academy Twin
Wednesday Feb 20, 7pm
Dendy Newtown

TIMES HAVE BEEN BETTER



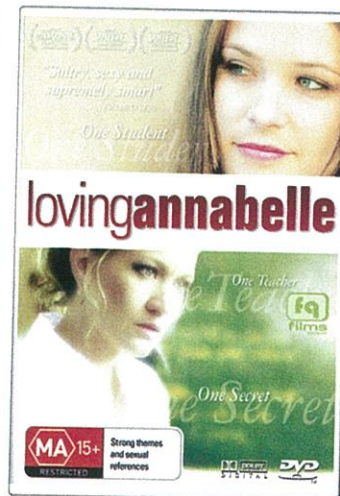
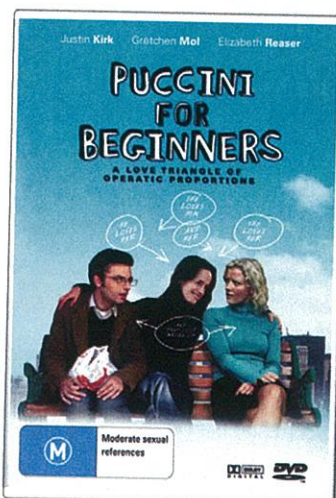
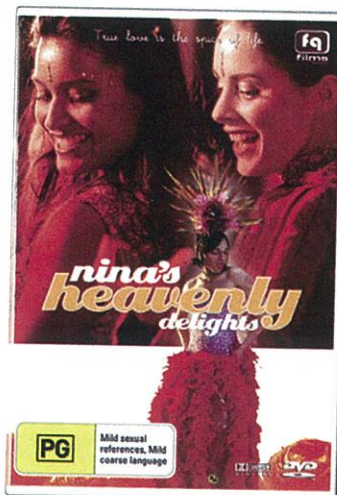
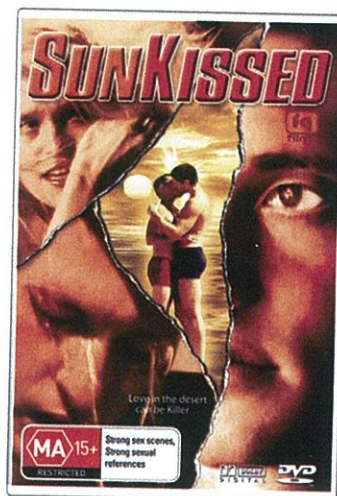
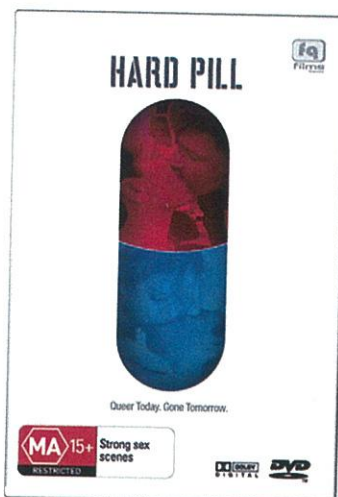
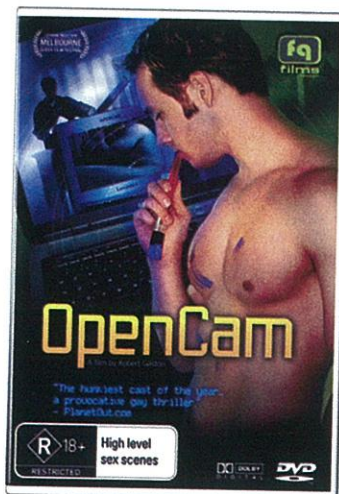
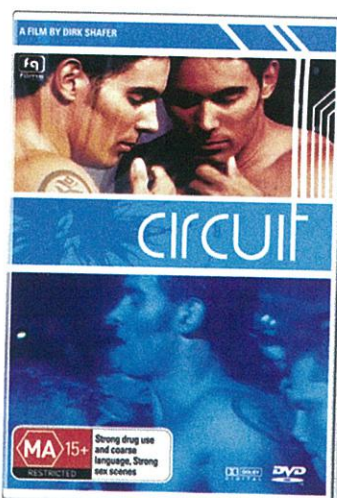
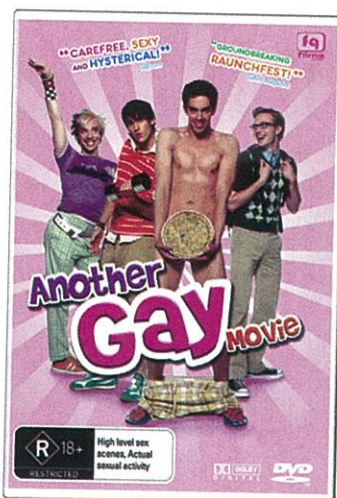
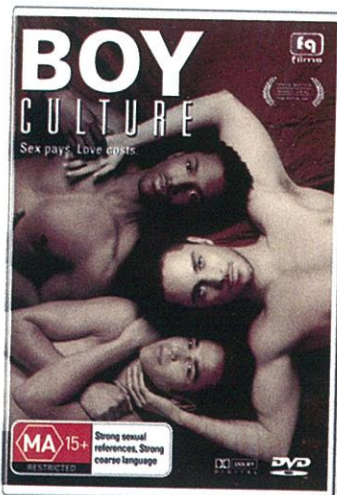
France, 2007, 85 min
Director: Régis Musset

This delightful French farce is an exceptionally clever flipside of the 'coming out story'. Guy and Rosine fancy themselves progressive, but when their golden child Jeremy announces he's gay, they must come to terms with their unexpected discomfort and the hysterical chaos of coming out as 'proud parents' to their friends and family. The bedlam that ensues is as outrageous as it is touching, making for a truly memorable roller-coaster romp.

Friday Feb 15, 7:30pm
Riverside Theatre Parramatta
Sunday Feb 24, 7:30pm
Palace Academy Twin

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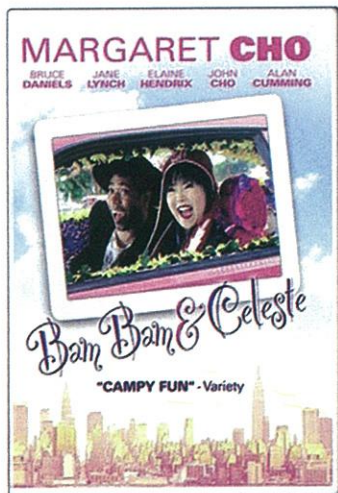
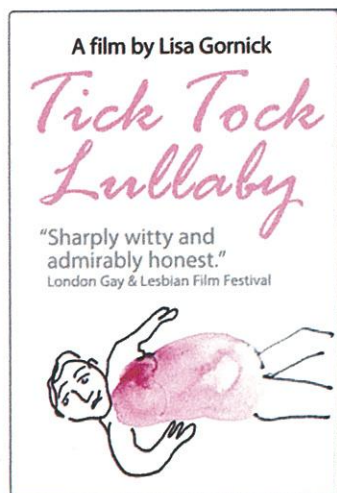
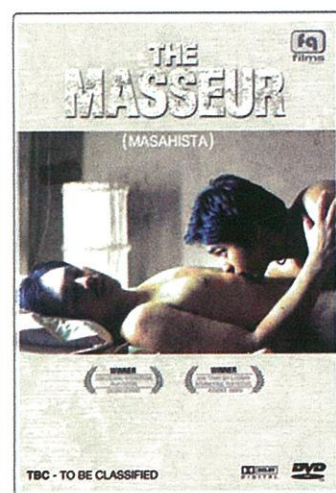
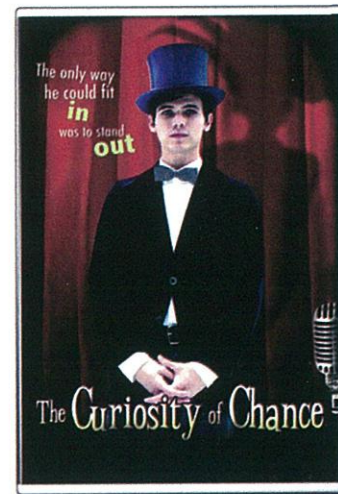
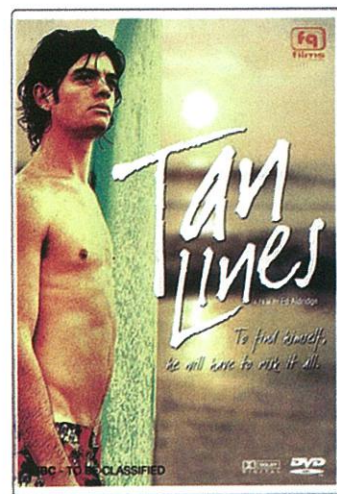
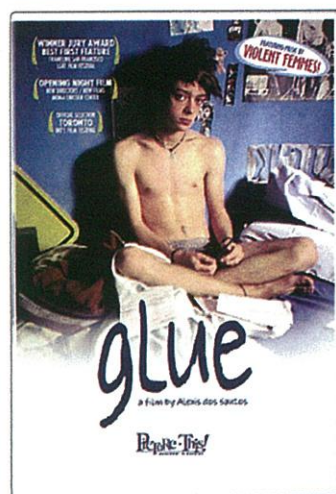
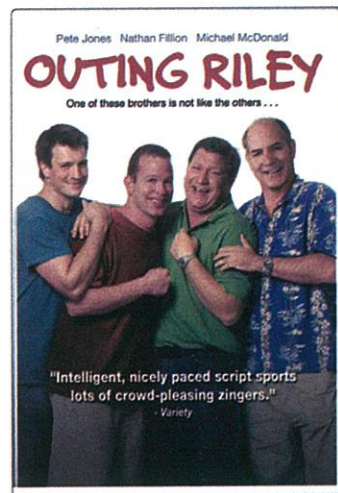
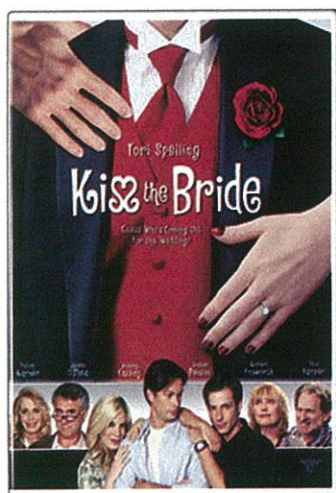
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BEST OF BONSAI

The best drama, the best comedy, the best kiss and more in this highlights package hand-picked for Parramatta. *PARIAH* won the inaugural International Iris Prize for Best Queer Short Film. A guy decides to come out in a big way in *SMALL TOWN BOY*. *KALI MA* is the goddess of revenge and you ought to be afraid when she is summoned by a protective mother. The leader of a gang of girls is intrigued by a loner in *MARS*. Two guys *BABYSITTING ANDY* must answer questions about fellatio. Rachel has a new driving license and a new girlfriend in *MY FIRST TIME DRIVING*.

PARIAH USA 2006, 28 mins Directed by Dee Rees;
SMALL TOWN BOY UK 2007 13 mins, Directed by Moby Longinotto;
KALI MA India/USA 2007, 14 mins directed by Soman Chainani;
MARS Germany, 2007, 16 mins, Directed by Marcus Richardt;
BABYSITTING ANDY Canada 2007, 10 mins, Directed by Pat Mills;
MY FIRST TIME DRIVING USA 2007, 18 mins ;
41 SECONDS Germany, 2007, 4 mins; Directed by Rodney Sewell

Sunday Feb 17, 2pm
Riverside Theatre, Parramatta

FUN IN BOYS' SHORTS

Our annual collection of funny and sexy international boys shorts has a bunch of films that do not outlast their welcome. This is one of the more varied collections we have shown. A closeted freak makes new friends in *GAY ZOMBIE*. A balding guy thinks his age is the problem when a deaf guy rejects him in *SIGNAGE*. A one night stand has unexpected consequences in *DADDY*. An Indian commuter should be more careful who he cruises on the bus in *LOST AND FOUND*. Next is *BABYSITTING ANDY* and young Andy is keen to find out more about fellatio. *WANTED* is a short German western cartoon and Aussie Tim Hunter checks out the gym in *WORKING IT OUT*. We end with the wonderful revenge tale *KALI MA* from the director of last year's *DAVY & STU*

GAY ZOMBIE Dir Michael Simon, USA 2007, 20 mins;
SIGNAGE Dir Rick Hammerly, USA 13 mins;
MODERN DAY ARRANGED MARRIAGE Dir Rohi Mirza, India 5 mins;
DADDY Dir Sid Karghar, USA 7 mins;
LOST & FOUND Dir Shrenik, India 6 mins;
BABYSITTING ANDY Dir Pat Mills, USA 10 mins;
WANTED Dir Tobia Von Burkersroda, Paul Schicketainz & Max Stoer;
WORKING IT OUT Dir Tim Hunter, Australia, 7 mins;
KALI MA Dir Soman, Chainani India/USA 2007, 14 mins

Saturday February 16, 3pm
Palace Academy Twin



KRAUT AND OUT

German guys have a reputation for being very sexy, and sex comes up quite a lot in this program. They are less known for their humour, but this year, they have made some surprisingly funny films. There is much to enjoy in this collection of fine Deutsch briefs.

We start with the more serious tale of sex and romance *LOVE KILLS*, and then get sensual with the erotic *DIE RAZUR*. Internet dating with *MR RIGHT* is followed by some musical neighbours in *GERO*, *GUND UND DIE GROBARTIGE*. The tough German rent police have no respect for privacy in *WUNDERLICH PRIVAT*, *STAR TREK* takes its place in *COMMUNICATOR* and we end on a high note with the story of two guys and the girl they kissed - *41 SECONDS*.

LOVE KILLS Directed by Tor Iben 28 mins;
DIE RAZUR Directed by Tuncay Kulaoglu & Martina Priessner 9 mins;
MR RIGHT Directed by Reza Rameri 12 mins;
GERO, GERD UND DIE GROBARTIGE Directed by Lisa Adler. 14 mins;
WUNDERLICH PRIVAT Directed by Aliue Chukwueda 9 mins;
COMMUNICATOR Directed by B Schutmann, 11 mins;
41 SECONDS Directed by Rodney Sewell 3 mins 43 seconds

Sunday Feb 17, 3.00pm
Palace Academy Twin

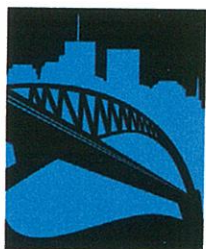
EURO-VISIONS



European chicks serve up a smorgasbord of fine short films in '08. Caroline lives a seemingly perfect life in *GNIST*. In *FLUCHTPUNKTE* a one night stand has alarming repercussions for two lovers. When the *SPINNING* class ends, and the power goes out, action starts in the gym shower. Two girls impulsively make love, but face a chilly morning after in *LE LIT FROISSE*. One fatal night *AGNIESZKA* opens the box of eternity, sealing her destiny and the fate of the world. Marion has just been released from prison in *KALTE HAUT* and she and her friend Kitty have some big decisions to make.

GNIST (Spark) directed by Inger Lene Stordrange;
FLUCHTPUNKTE directed by Tomislav Turina;
SPINNING by Heidi Arnesen;
TRAU DICH directed by Jutta Fastian & Claudia Scarpatetti;
LE LIT FROISSE (The Creased Bed) directed by Myriam Donasis;
AGNIESZKA: A Dark Symphony of 2039 directed by Martin Gauvreau;
KALTE HAUT (Cold Skin) directed by Sebastian Kutzli

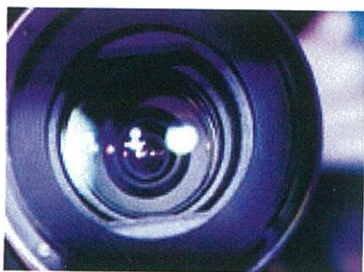
Saturday Feb 23, 2pm
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SHE-LARIOUS SHORTS

The best lesbian comedy shorts of the year start off with **WORST CASE BUTCH SCENARIO** a butch etiquette tutorial. Amy is a new girl in town who cannot get a date until she joins the **MEMBERS ONLY** club. Corey & Max compete for the same woman at the supermarket, however all is not what it seems at the **CHECKOUT**, **POPPY** is on a mission to bring golf back to the Dinah Shore Weekend. Will she find the perfect **FOURSOME**? **NATI'S REQUIREMENTS** for the perfect partner have some surprising outcomes. Super sleuth and super smooth **JANE BLONDE** knows how to zero in on her target. Aspiring Opera star **CASTRATO DI MATTEO** records an **AUDITION TAPE**. While what Maria and Giovanna want in **E' FEMMINA, NO?** (She's A Female, isn't she?) is not allowed.

WORST CASE BUTCH SCENARIO Directed by Mary Guzman;
MEMBERS ONLY Directed by Caroline Roca-Smith;
CHECKOUT Directed by Jenn Garrison;
POPPY'S FOURSOME Directed by Ren Blood;
NATI'S REQUIREMENTS Directed by R Caston;
JANE BLONDE Directed by Lorna Richards.
CASTRATO DI MATTEO'S AUDITION TAPE Directed by Laura Terruso
E' FEMMINA, NO? (She's a female, isn't she?) Directed by Silvia Novelli.

Sunday Feb 24, 2pm

Palace Academy Twin

SMALL TOWN BOYS AND COWBOYS FOREVER

A program of gay guys in unexpected places, facing challenges, and finding sex and love wherever they find them selves.

15 year old David comes out in a spectacular way in his little English village in **SMALL TOWN BOY**. An older guy also makes his mark in **DIVA**. Two farmers toil their rocks in **ROCK GARDEN: A LOVE STORY**. **THE COMPANIONIST** is an attractive male who creates his own love. A real life "Brokeback Mountain" takes place in the wild Pantanal area of Western Brazil in **COWBOY FOREVER**. **HEARTLAND** also goes into cowboy territory as a city boy is called back to the Iowa farm. A married man on holiday in Marrakesh with his wife chooses the wrong day to look for sex in **IN THE PLACE OF THE DEAD**.

THE COMPANIONIST USA, 2007, 3 mins, Directed by Jarrah Gurrie; **COWBOY FOREVER** France, 2007, 26 mins, Directed by Jean-Baptiste Erreca;

DIVA France, 2007, 7 mins; Directed by Josephine Mackerras; **HEARTLAND**, USA, 2007, 12 mins, Directed by Mark Christopher;

IN THE PLACE OF THE DEAD UK/Morocco 2007, 13 mins

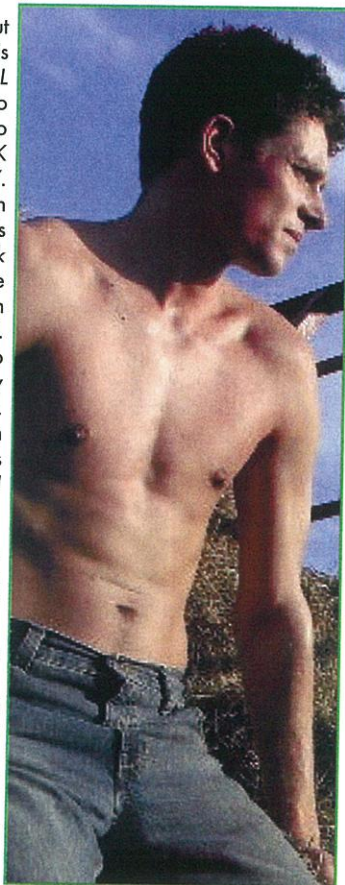
Directed by Keith Claxton;

ROCK GARDEN: A LOVE STORY, Canada 2007, 10 mins

Directed by Gloria Kim;

SMALL TOWN BOY UK, 2007, 13 mins

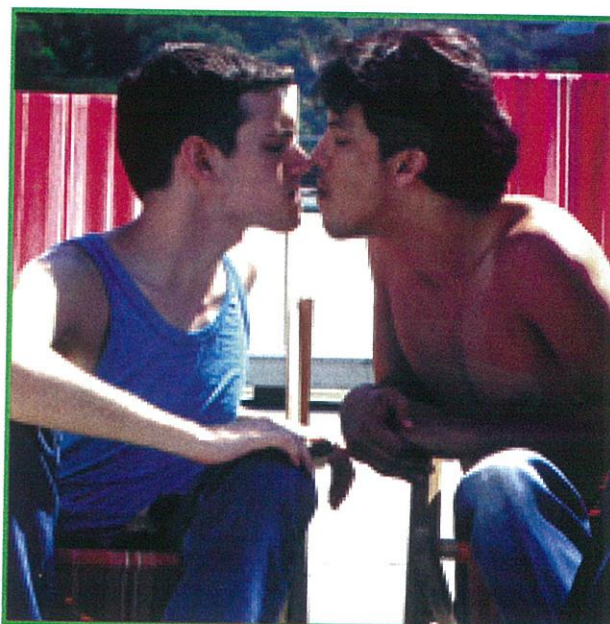
Directed by Moby Longinotto.



Saturday Feb 23, 5:20pm

Palace Academy Twin

TALES FROM ISRAEL



In recent years Israeli film schools have earned a very strong reputation for impressive shorts. The queer films produced at these schools in 2007 are no exception and we are pleased to present five of the best. A young man and his father each spend Memorial Day in their own unique ways in **TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS**. Smoking a joint becomes twice as fun for two teenagers in **SHOTGUN**. Mika is attracted to her best friend but can't seem to find **HER OWN WAY** of expressing it. A father wants to hide his male partner from his son at the basketball **TRYOUT**. And the sexual tension between two women boils over when they find themselves stuck together on **TOP OF THE WORLD**.

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS Directed by Benjamin Freidenberg, 10 min;

SHOTGUN Directed by Ronny Hirshmann, 17min;

HER OWN WAY Directed by Limor Ziv, 16 min;

TRYOUT Directed by Nimrod Rinot, 16 min;

TOP OF THE WORLD Directed by Maya Kenig, 15 min.

Tuesday Feb 19, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

Games of Love

Sex, pain, love and jealousy are intensely felt when younger queers (boys and girls) find the first pangs of desire. This excellent collection of films looks at when the game of love becomes a power struggle.

In **DYKE** an A-grade student draws inspiration and desire from the bad girl at school. **FIRST FLUSH** is a biting story of teenagers using sexuality as power in an increasingly pornographic world. Olle, in spite of his insecurities finally finds the courage to express his love in **LUCKY BLUE**. In **PEACE TALK** tomboy Joanna loves to play war with her adorable best friend Emellie. And in **MARS**, the leader of a gang of girls meets an attractive loner.

DYKE, Australia, 2008, 8 mins Directed by Kelly Carpenter,

FIRST FLUSH (Ynglinge) Denmark, 2007, 24 mins,

Directed by Mikkel Munch-Fals;

LUCKY BLUE Sweden 2007, 28 mins, Directed by Hakon Liu;

MARS, Germany 2007, 18 mins, Directed by Marcus Richardt;

PEACE TALK, Sweden, 2005, 14 mins, Directed by Jenifer Malmqvist.

Saturday Feb 16, 2pm

Riverside Theatre, Parramatta



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A JIHAD FOR LOVE



US / UK / France / Germany / Australia, 2007, 81 min
Director: Parvez Sharma

In a time when Islam is under attack from within and without, *A JIHAD FOR LOVE* is a powerful documentary, filmed over five years, in 12 countries and nine languages. This, the first feature-length documentary to explore the complex global intersections of Islam and homosexuality, was filmed under great risk. In many nations with a Muslim majority, laws based on Quranic interpretations are enforced by authorities to monitor, entrap, imprison, torture and even execute homosexuals. At times employing undercover-style camera work to access a broad depth of Islamic experience, *A JIHAD FOR LOVE* looks beyond a hostile and war-torn present to reclaim the Islamic concept of a greater Jihad, which can mean 'an inner struggle' or 'to strive in the path of God'.

Director Parvez Sharma and producer Sandi DuBowski will be in attendance for our Australian Premiere of the film and forum discussion.

Thursday Feb 21, 7:30pm

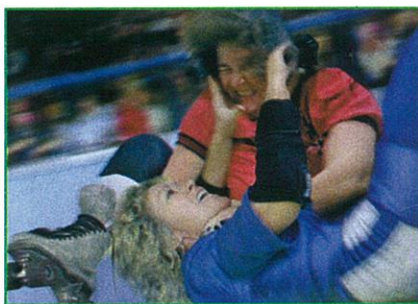
Palace Academy Twin

JAM

USA, 2006, 85 min

Director: Mark Woollen

Watch out, roller derby is back and these skaters are tough. In the US in the 60s the skating rink drew as many television viewers as major league sports, and even though it vanished from the mainstream, there are a few old rollers who haven't let go. Join this passionate brigade of roller fanatics as they fight to drag (kicking and screaming) the derby back in vogue. With the dramas of the rink far surpassed by behind-the-scenes controversy, this tumultuous revival brings to light the incredible queer history of the sport and the unlikely community it provides for its many gay and lesbian followers in San Francisco.



Friday Feb 22, 7:00pm

Dendy Newtown

U & ME & TENNESSEE

UK, 2007, 95 min

Director: Paul Birchard

Actor/director Paul Birchard has made a surprisingly entertaining documentary on an affair between playwright Tennessee Williams and Konrad Hopkins.

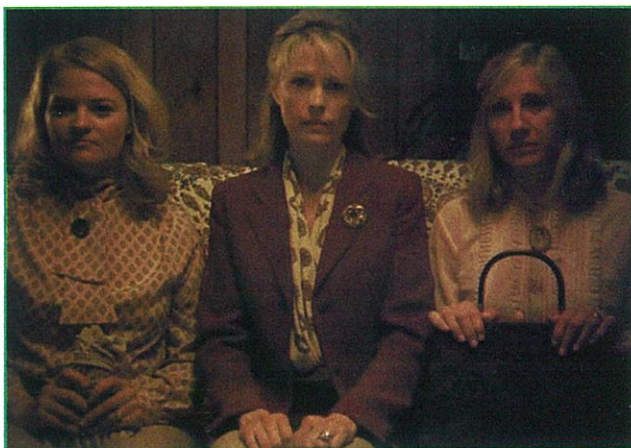
"A free flowing and natural conversation between interviewer and interviewee (Konrad Hopkins) results in a montage of anecdotes, which produces a very distinct image of Tennessee at the height of his career. The portrayal of a sexually driven man who remorselessly used and disposed of people as and when he felt, paints an often less than flattering portrait of Tennessee. The blunt and unashamed revelations about the playwright cast a new light on the man and subsequently his works." *Raindance Film Festival*



Saturday Feb 23, 3:00pm

Palace Academy Twin

A VILLAGE ROMANCE



Hungary, 2007, 53 min

Director: Kriszta Bodis

An unusual lesbian love story from Hungary that covers an affair between two women in a very small village. There are no secrets in this town and no role models on whom these women can base their relationship. One of the women is a poor villager and the other is married to an abusive alcoholic. Director Kriszta Bodis has captured these women and their relationship delicately, without judgement. Her true feel for the countryside and milieu in which this doco is set, makes for an authentic and compelling tale.

Screened in conjunction with:

BERATED WOMAN

USA, 2007, 15 mins

Directed by Anya Meksins

A Jewish housewife breaks the suburban rule to attract the attention of the president of the local concerned mothers group.

Monday Feb 25, 6:30pm

Palace Academy Twin

MARRICKVILLE
council

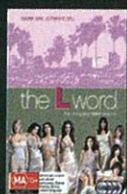
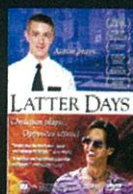


Happy Mardi Gras!

Marrickville Council's GLL@M
Committee wishes everyone a
safe and fabulous
30th Mardi Gras Festival

*The Gay and Lesbian Liaison @ Marrickville Committee (GLL@M) promotes issues relevant to the local gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex (GLBTI) community to Marrickville Council.
GLL@M provides advice and facilitates effective communication between Council and members of the GLBTI community in the Marrickville area. For more information on this committee, or to make a submission, phone 9335 2222 or email gllam@marrickville.nsw.gov.au.*

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Tickets available for purchase
from Jan 18 at the Box Office of
the venue in which the session is
screening.

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of Festival Venues (excluding
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All tickets purchased more than
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will be mailed out. Tickets
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cinema. Pre-purchased tickets
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- photo identification may be
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For Queerscreen

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New credits to come

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 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 departures from QS: Megan
Carrigy, Robbie Baldwin, Sam Doctor;
the voluntarily dedicated and adorable:
Alexis Armitage, Sasha Cohen, Dashiell
Hannoush, Mahalia McConkey; old
faithfuls: Mark Burrows and David
Williams; the wonderful women at
Volkswagen Group Australia - Brooke
Mountford, Davina Hobbs, Nina Preuss,
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- Lisa Daniels @ Melbourne Queer Film
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Festival, Vicco Ho @ Hong Kong Lesbian
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their teams - Lisa Robertson @ City
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incredibly supportive community - Alex
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ACON, Scott Quine and the Sydney Gay
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Segal and Shelly Mitchell @ Mix It Up
for your camaraderie; Marcus Bourget,
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