 Queer Screen's 31st

# Mardi Gras Film Festival

15-29 February 2024 In Cinema  
1-11 March 2024 On Demand

PRESENTED BY

**OPTUS**

AMERICAN  
EXPRESS

Allianz 

JOHNNIE  WALKER



# Festival Welcome



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Lisa Rose  
Festival Director

Queer Screen feels honoured to work, create and contribute to the community on the land of the traditional custodians. We acknowledge their wisdom and resilience in the face of injustices. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

# Femme

OPENING NIGHT GALA



## SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Sam H. Freeman, Ng Choon Ping | UK | English | 99 mins | Unclassified 18+

Jules' life falls apart after he's the victim of a violent gay bashing whilst in drag. Months later, a vulnerable Jules spots his attacker at a gay sauna. When the deeply closeted Preston doesn't recognise him out of drag, Jules decides to pursue him, setting in motion a tense game of cat and mouse. As he dives into Preston's world of power plays and performative masculinity, how far will Jules go to get revenge? Nathan Stewart-Jarrett (*Benjamin*) and George MacKay (*Pride*) are phenomenal in this acclaimed neo-noir thriller about internalised homophobia and queer resilience. *Content warning: see website.* [Opening Night Party tickets available.](#)

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THU 15 FEB 7PM, Event George St

# Housekeeping for Beginners

CLOSING NIGHT GALA



## SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Goran Stolevski | North Macedonia, Poland, Croatia, Serbia, Kosovo | Macedonian, English Subtitles | 107 mins | Unclassified 15+

Though Dita has no interest in being a mother, she's nonetheless become the de facto matriarch of a household of queers with nowhere else to go. But when circumstances leave her girlfriend unable to care for her two daughters, Dita has no choice but to raise them as her own – and somehow keep her entire brood of misfits safe. Filled with acclaimed Australian filmmaker Goran Stolevski's signature fast-paced, witty dialogue, this sensitive domestic drama finds joy in the chaos of found family. *Content warning: see website.* [Q&A details TBC.](#) [Closing Night Party tickets available.](#) [Presented with Optus.](#)

THU 29 FEB 7PM, Event George St

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# The Missing

NARRATIVE CENTREPIECE



## SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Carl Joseph E. Papa | Philippines | Tagalog, Ilocano, English Subtitles | 90 mins | Unclassified 15+

Eric seems to have a good life: he's close to his mum, lives alone and even has a crush on his coworker Carlos. Except for one thing – he doesn't have a mouth. The reason becomes clear when he finds his uncle dead, triggering repressed memories of abuse that manifest as an alien abduction. The Philippines' entry for Best International Feature at the Oscars, this stunning allegory for trauma, abuse and survival reveals the power in confronting the past. *Content warning: see website.*

# Queendom

NARRATIVE CENTREPIECE



Directed by Agniia Galdanova | France, USA | Russian, English Subtitles | 98 mins | Unclassified 15+

Radical non-binary artist Gena Marvin (she/her) is celebrated in this exhilarating documentary following her incredible story of art and defiance in Putin's Russia, amidst the invasion of Ukraine. Filmed over four years, queer director Agniia Galdanova captures the vulnerability and fearless bravery of Gena as she stages breathtaking performances in otherworldly costumes on the streets of Moscow. These performances become a new form of art and activism aiming to raise awareness of LGBTIQ+ people in oppressive and often hostile environments. *Content warning: see website.*

# All of Us Strangers

SPECIAL EVENT



Directed by Andrew Haigh | UK | English | 105 mins | MA

Paul Mescal and Andrew Scott reveal extraordinary intimacy in this beautiful, heart-wrenching film from director Andrew Haigh (*Weekend*). One night in his near-empty London tower block, Adam has a chance encounter with a mysterious neighbour Harry, puncturing the rhythm of his everyday loneliness. As a relationship develops, Adam is preoccupied with memories of the past. He's drawn back to his childhood home where his parents (Claire Foy and Jamie Bell) appear to be living, despite having died 30 years before. *Content warning: see website.*

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**SUN 18 FEB 8:30PM, Westpac OpenAir Cinema**  
**DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St**

## Music from Queer Film: Performed by the Sydney Cello Quartet

SPECIAL EVENT



Embark on a journey through music from classic queer films by the power and elegance of the Sydney Cello Quartet. Experience the lyrical Sufjan Stevens' "Visions of Gideon" from *Call Me By Your Name*, the haunting sounds of the *Moonlight* score, the disco beats of "I Will Survive" from *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, an acapella track from *Portrait of a Lady on Fire* and so much more, in the beautiful Playhouse Theatre at the iconic Sydney Opera House. **Concert and Film Multipack tickets available.**

## Days of Happiness

SPECIAL EVENT



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Chloé Robichaud | Canada | French, English Subtitles | 118 mins | Unclassified 15+

A rising star on Montreal's classical scene, young conductor Emma is torn between chasing her career or committing to love, in this emotionally captivating drama. While her overbearing father micromanages her career, Emma falls for single mother and cellist Naelle. Caught between worlds, she must look deep within herself to choose whether she will follow the status quo or finally live by her own terms. **Content warning: see website. Concert and Film Multipack tickets available.**

# Sing-a-long: The Sound of Music

SPECIAL EVENT



Directed by Robert Wise | USA | English | ### mins | G

Calling all naughty nuns, cool captains and bratty children – it's time to sing-a-long with *The Sound of Music*! Join us, the Order of Perpetual Indulgence and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Choir as we dive deep into this classic musical to belt out all the songs we know and love. We promise a raucous night where we transport ourselves to Salzburg and try to solve a problem like Maria. Find your best curtains to wear and be there! **Presented with The Sisters and Brothers of The Order of Perpetual Indulgence Sydney and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Choir.**



# In the Room Where He Waits

AUSTRALIAN SHOWCASE



## WORLD PREMIERE

Directed by Timothy Despina Marshall | Australia | English | 82 mins | Unclassified 15+

When theatre actor Tobin returns to Australia in the lead up to his father's funeral he must isolate in a hotel room for seven days. Merging this recognisable pandemic-era backdrop with a pinch of the supernatural, *In the Room Where He Waits* is an intimate, claustrophobic tale of grief and abandonment while in lockdown. This chilling psychological thriller marks an exciting feature debut for up-and-coming Australian director Timothy Despina Marshall.

This film was a [Queer Screen Completion Fund](#) recipient and a [Queer Screen Goes to Cannes](#) selection. [Writer-director Timothy Despina Marshall](#) and [producer Bec Dakin](#) in attendance for Q&A. [Australian Showcase Party tickets available.](#)

# A Portrait of Love

AUSTRALIAN SHOWCASE



## WORLD PREMIERE

Directed by Molly Reynolds | Australia | English | 90 mins | Unclassified 15+

A joyful celebration of the life and loss of Archibald award-winning artist Craig Ruddy, told through the eyes of his loving partner of twenty years, Roberto Meza Mont. Directed by Molly Reynolds (*My Name is Gulpilil*), utilising footage captured by Roberto, this moving documentary goes behind the scenes of their life together to capture the spirit of the man and artist. An incredible portrait of a creative powerhouse and an exuberant celebration of love. *Content warning: see website.*

[Director Molly Reynolds](#) and [Roberto Meza Mont](#) in attendance for Q&A. [Australian Showcase Party tickets available.](#) **Presented with Johnnie Walker.**

# Sahela



Directed by Raghuvir Joshi | Australia | Hindi, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 93 mins | Unclassified 15+

As second-generation Indian-Australians in Western Sydney, Vir and Nitya were achieving everything that was expected of them – professional careers, marriage and a down payment for a home. But as Vir inches closer to fulfilling his parents' dreams, he realises he can no longer ignore his own desires. A moving film about self-discovery and identity, *Sahela* beautifully captures a gay man and his wife's connection with each other, tethered by their shared experiences. *Content warning: see website.* Producer Tayyab Madni in attendance for Q&A. Australian Showcase Party tickets available. **Presented with Trikone.**

# Sunflower



## WORLD PREMIERE

Directed by Gabriel Carrubba | Australia | English | 82 mins | Unclassified 15+

Australian director Gabriel Carrubba's impressive first feature follows Leo, a 17-year-old growing up in working-class Melbourne who plays sport, goofs off with his best mate, and fends off attention from his female classmates. However, he is also questioning his sexuality, and is terrified of what might happen if anyone discovers his secret. This tender film is an atmospheric and touching exploration of a time in our lives when everything – anger, love, shame – feels overwhelming. *Content warning: see website.* This film was a Queer Screen Completion Fund recipient and Queer Screen Goes to Cannes selection. Director Gabriel Carrubba, producer Zane Borg and cast members in attendance for Q&A. Australian Showcase Party tickets available.

# Blue Lights

WORLD PREMIERE



## WORLD PREMIERE

Directed by Lucas Santa Ana | Argentina | Spanish, English Subtitles | 100 mins | Unclassified 15+

Explore the intricate dynamics of love, friendship and secrets in this captivating ensemble dramedy from director Lucas Santa Ana. *Blue Lights* delves into the complex relationships of seven close friends and family members that have gathered to celebrate Alejandro's 70th birthday. Over the course of the evening, secrets are revealed, tensions surface and enduring bonds are formed. A sophisticated exploration of love, loss, friendship and forgiveness. [Writer-director Lucas Santa Ana in attendance for Q&A.](#)

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St  
DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

# Another Country

RETROSPECTIVE



## 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Directed by Marek Kaniévski | UK | English | 90 mins | M

Celebrating its 40th anniversary, this groundbreaking gay classic features star-making (and swoon-worthy) performances from Rupert Everett, Colin Firth and Cary Elwes. Inspired by true events, *Another Country* explores the impact 1930s British boarding school life had on Guy Bennett, and his decision to become a Soviet spy. With its thought-provoking screenplay and sublime performances, the film unforgettably captures the dreamy idealism of youth and first love. *Content warning: see website.*

# Female Trouble

RETROSPECTIVE



## 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Directed by John Waters | USA | English | 89 mins | R

Glamour has never been more grotesque than in *Female Trouble*, which injects the Hollywood melodrama with anarchic decadence. Divine, director John Waters' larger-than-life muse, engulfs the screen with charisma as Dawn Davenport. The living embodiment of the film's lurid mantra "crime is beauty", she progresses from a teenage nightmare hell-bent on getting cha-cha heels for Christmas to egomaniacal fame monster. Shot in Waters' native Baltimore on 16mm, it offers up perverse pleasures that never fail to satisfy. *Content warning: see website.*

# When Night is Falling

RETROSPECTIVE



## 4K RESTORATION

Directed by Patricia Rozema | Canada | English | 94 mins | MA

Get swept away by the stunning 4K restoration of one of the most erotic Sapphic romances to ever grace our screens. *When Night is Falling* tells the story of Camille (Pascale Bussières), a professor at a Protestant college in Toronto who's engaged to fellow professor Martin (Henry Czerny). A chance meeting with Petra (Rachael Crawford), a flamboyant performer in a Felliniesque circus troupe sees Camille inexplicably drawn, throwing her whole conservative life into disarray.

# Guests & Panels

# Community Screenings

Queer Screen is committed to removing barriers preventing people from attending the Mardi Gras Film Festival with these \$10 Community Screenings, supported by Allianz.



**25 Feb  
1:45pm**  
Dendy  
Newtown

**The Harvest**  
p. xx



**24 Feb  
2pm**  
Event  
George St

**Isla's Way**  
p. xx



**22 Feb  
7pm**  
Event  
Hustville

**The Queen of My Dreams**  
p. xx



**24 Feb  
4:30pm**  
Dendy  
Newtown

**Summer Qamp**  
p. xx



**28 Feb  
6:20pm**  
Ritz  
Cinemas

**Summer Solstice**  
p. xx

## All the Colours of the World Are Between Black and White



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Babatunde Apalowo | Nigeria | English, Igbo, Nigerian Pidgin, English Subtitles | 92 mins | Unclassified 15+

Bambino has resigned himself to a solitary life, until he meets the charming Bawa. Drawn into his attempts to win a photography competition, Bambino joins Bawa on his explorations of Lagos in search of the perfect shot, as model and muse. But as Nigeria's anti-gay laws loom, both struggle to acknowledge the growing affection between them. Winner of the Teddy Award for best queer film at Berlinale, this slow-burn love story is told with tenderness and restraint. *Content warning: see website. Presented with African Film Fest Australia.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## All the Silence



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Name | Mexico | Spanish, English Subtitles | 83 mins | Unclassified 15+

In this subtle drama that uses innovative sound design to immerse us in the story, we follow Miriam, who teaches Mexican Sign Language. As a CODA (a Child of d/Deaf Adult), and living with her deaf girlfriend who doesn't sign, her hearing is an important part of her identity. When she finds out she's losing her hearing, she struggles to accept it and through her journey we contemplate what it is to hear, see and speak. *Screens with The Device That Turned Me Into a Cyborg Was Born the Same Year I Was (3 mins). Presented with Deaf Rainbow NSW.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Along Came Love



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Katell Quillévéré | France | French, English Subtitles | 123 mins | Unclassified 18+

This sumptuously shot film explores the story of a couple who save one another through keeping each other's secrets, spanning the decades post-WW2. Single mother Madeleine and writer Francois meet in homophobic 1950s France – a time when being gay is still illegal. They marry quickly, and soon after Madeleine comes to realise her husband's hidden desires. What follows is a sweeping story of unconventional love that rises above the norms of a judgemental society. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Aitch Alberto | USA | Spanish, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 96 mins | Unclassified 15+

Based on Benjamin Alire Sáenz's critically acclaimed young adult novel, this evocative coming of age tale shines with warmth and compassion. In late 1980s Texas, lonely Mexican-American teen Aristotle meets polar opposite Dante by chance at a local swimming pool, where they immediately bond. What follows is a heart-warming story of friendship and self-discovery, carried beautifully by the natural chemistry between its two leads. *Content warning: see website. Presented with The Bookshop Darlinghurst.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St



## The Chambermaid



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Mariana Čengel Solčanská | Slovakia, Czechia | Czech, German, Slovakian, Hungarian, English Subtitles | 100 mins | Unclassified 15+

When Anka leaves her small town to become a maid for a powerful Austrian family, she is confronted with a world vastly different from anything she has experienced. After a rocky start with the family's daughter, their animosity soon becomes companionship and an escape from societal expectations. *Fingersmith* meets *Ammonite* in this passionate historical drama about love across opposite ends of the social ladder. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Cora Bora



Directed by Hannah Pearl Utt | USA | English | 92 mins | Unclassified 15+

This bittersweet comedy is the perfect showcase for the very funny internet comedian turned *Hacks* scene-stealer Meg Stalter. As Cora, a struggling LA musician who returns to her Portland hometown only to find her long-distance girlfriend has moved on, Stalter delivers a hilarious performance that is also touching. Cora is optimistic, prickly and slightly awkward and doesn't always know the right way to fix the wrongs she's created. And in Stalter's hands, she leaps off the screen.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Down Low



Directed by Rightor Doyle | USA | English | 90 mins | MA

Repressed Gary (Zachary Quinto) hires sex worker Cameron (Lukas Gage) for a simple rub-and-tug. But when Cameron learns it's Gary's first time he's determined to show him the full gay hook-up app experience – until their prospective third falls out a window. With a stranger's body in the garden and a nosy neighbour snooping around, their night quickly spirals from *Weekend to Weekend at Bernie's* in this hysterical, surprisingly heartfelt pitch-black farce about finally embracing who you are. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Egoist



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Daishi Matsunaga | Japan | Japanese, English Subtitles | 120 mins | Unclassified 18+

When successful fashion editor Kosuke hires Ryuta to be his personal trainer, there's an immediate attraction. Ryuta lives with his ill mother and works multiple jobs to support her. Kosuke, having lost his mother when he was young, is welcomed into their family – a bond he had long missed. Told with warmth and tenderness, this adaptation of Makoto Takayama's autobiographical novel *Egoist* is a gut-wrenching character drama boasting vulnerable, assured lead performances. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## F.L.Y.



### INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE

Directed by Rafael Albarran, Trent Kendrick | USA | English | 105 mins | Unclassified 15+

Ready to head to an all-too-familiar past? Joint writer-directors Trent Kendrick and Rafael Albarran play exes re-establishing a connection in LA when the pandemic hits, forcing them to live under the one roof – for better or worse! They’ll both face up to some hard realities and also learn more about each other than they did before. A film that celebrates living your truth, and trusting where it takes you. *Content warning: see website.*

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DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Fireworks



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Giuseppe Fiorello | Italy | Italian, English Subtitles | 114 mins | Unclassified 15+

It’s summer in 1980s Sicily and life spills outside for swimming, Vespa rides, outdoor family dinners and crowding around analogue TVs for raucous football celebrations. But under the sweaty veneer of another hot summer, simmers the dark reality of conservative society. When shy, handsome Gianni meets carefree Nino, their lives change forever. As the two fall in love, the moral rumblings from their families and townsfolk rise in this intimate drama. *Content warning: see website.*

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DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Girls Don't Cry

NARRATIVE FEATURES



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Andrea Zuliani | Italy | Italian, English Subtitles | 105 mins | Unclassified 15+

Two teenage girls embark on a roadtrip through the Italian countryside – one fleeing home, the other desperate to return to her own. As they navigate a host of dangerous characters, the pair are pulled closer together and retreat into the safety of each other's arms. Equal parts gritty and sweet, *Girls Don't Cry* is a sensitive, delicate film about Mia and Ele's whirlwind journey towards adulthood as they face the realities of life.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## The Harvest



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Caylee So | USA | Hmong, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 110 mins | Unclassified 15+

A man returns home to care for his Hmong-American family after his father falls ill. Writer Doua Moua (*Mulan*) stars as the prodigal son who takes on the patriarchal role in his father's stead, while masking a secret of his own that he fears being exposed. A thoughtful, meditative film on the friction between tradition and change, it's a bittersweet drama filled with heartwarming moments. **Presented with Johnnie Walker.**

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Hilma



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Lasse Hallström | Sweden | English | 120 mins | Unclassified 15+

The enigmatic life of painter Hilma af Klint is explored in this lush, engrossing biopic. One of the first abstract painters, Hilma fights through a male-dominated art world to gain recognition for her unique work. Along the way she finds support through female friendship and her artist girlfriend. *Hilma* is a moving portrayal of a woman fighting for her right to create in a world trying to force her out. **Presented with Johnnie Walker and the Embassy of Sweden in Canberra.**

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## I Am What I Am



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Shinya Tamada | Japan | Japanese, English Subtitles | 105 mins | Unclassified 15+

30 year-old asexual Kasumi faces pressure to conform to traditional expectations of romance and marriage in Japan. Despite her mother's persistent matchmaking efforts, Kasumi remains uninterested in love or physical intimacy. A chance encounter on a blind date introduces her to a like-minded soul. Award-winning actress Toko Miura shines in this anti-rom-com that playfully defies genre conventions, as Kasumi grapples with the tension between her family's expectations and her quest for true independence. **Presented with Johnnie Walker and Australian Asexuals.**

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

NARRATIVE FEATURES

## The Lost Boys



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Zeno Graton | Belgium, France | French, English  
Subtitles | 85 mins | Unclassified 15+

In this emotionally-charged debut, 17-year-old Joe is preparing to return to society after being in juvenile detention. Just before his release William enters the facility, and the attraction between them is immediate. Before long, the two boys find the passion and affection they had been yearning for, as Joe begins to question what kind of freedom he truly desires. The leads are electric as a couple trapped in an environment designed to keep them apart. **Screens with *Leopard* (12 mins).**

## Love & Revolution



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Alejandro Marín | Spain | Spanish, English  
Subtitles | 106 mins | Unclassified 15+

In 1977 Andalusia, Miguel's ambitions to become a professional singer are brought to a halt when he is arrested for being gay. This injustice forces Reme, Miguel's mother, to finally confront her own traditional views. Together, mother and son join a motley crew of gay, lesbian and trans activists in the fight for homosexuality to finally be decriminalised, in this moving tribute to the activists who paved the way for Spain's LGBTQ+ rights movement. **Presented with *Johnnie Walker*.**

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THU 16 Feb	6:20 PM	Ritz	Sublime	p.52
	6:30 PM	Event	Number 96: TV's First LGBT Show	p.10
	6:40 PM	Ritz	Mars One	p.46
	7:00 PM	Hurstville	El Houb – The Love	p.35
	7:00 PM	Event	Queer Comedy Specials	p.11
	8:30 PM	Event	Compulsus	p.34
	8:45 PM	Ritz	Follow the Protocol	p.38
	9:00 PM	Event	Punch	p.48
FRI 17 Feb	6:20 PM	Ritz	Cop Secret	p.34
	6:30 PM	Event	Lonesome	p.18
	6:40 PM	Ritz	Wet Sand	p.55
	7:00 PM	Event	So Damn Easy Going	p.50
	8:30 PM	Event	Three Tidy Tigers Tied a Tie Tighter	p.53
	8:45 PM	Ritz	Bi+ Shorts	p.66
	9:00 PM	Event	Wandering Heart	p.54
SAT 18 Feb	11:00 AM	Event	Youth Shorts	p.70
	1:00 PM	Event	Asia-Pacific Queer Film Festival Award	p.66
	1:45 PM	Ritz	QueerDoc Shorts	p.68
	2:00 PM	Event	In Her Words: 20th Century Lesbian Fiction	p.62
	3:30 PM	Ritz	Blitzed!	p.59
	4:00 PM	Ritz	Lotus Sports Club	p.62
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	6:00 PM	Event	Eismayer	p.35
	6:00 PM	Ritz	This Place	p.52
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	7:30 PM	Event	All the Beauty and the Bloodshed	p.9
	8:00 PM	Ritz	In from the Side	p.45
	8:00 PM	Casula	The Blue Caftan	p.31
	8:30 PM	Event	8 Years	p.30
9:00 PM	Event	QueerScream Shorts	p.69	
SUN 19 Feb	6:00 PM	Event	Chrissy Judy	p.32
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	6:30 PM	Event	The Blue Caftan	p.31
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Date	Time	Venue	Film	Page
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MON 20 Feb	6:30 PM	Event	Elephant	p.37
	6:30 PM	Dendy	Uýra: The Rising Forest	p.63
	7:00 PM	Event	Trans Women Champions	p.21
	7:00 PM	Dendy	How to Tell a Secret	p.61
	8:30 PM	Event	#LookAtMe	p.30
TUE 21 Feb	6:30 PM	Event	Stephen Cummins Retrospective Gala	p.13
	6:30 PM	Dendy	Youtopia	p.56
	7:00 PM	Bearded Tit	Inqueersition: Queer Screen Trivia Night	p.26
	7:00 PM	Event	Finding Her Beat	p.60
	7:00 PM	Dendy	Trans and Gender Diverse Shorts	p.69
TUE 21 Feb	8:30 PM	Event	Shall I Compare You to a Summer's Day?	p.49
	8:30 PM	Event	Shall I Compare You to a Summer's Day?	p.49
WED 22 Feb	6:30 PM	Event	The Giants	p.22
	6:30 PM	Cremorne	The Five Devils	p.37
	6:30 PM	CanvaSpace	Smartphone Filmmaking Workshop	p.26
	7:00 PM	Event	My Emptiness and I	p.8
	7:00 PM	Cremorne	In from the Side	p.45
	8:30 PM	Event	Horseplay	p.44
	8:30 PM	Event	Horseplay	p.44
THU 23 Feb	6:20 PM	Ritz	El Houb – The Love	p.35
	6:30 PM	Event	The Longest Weekend	p.23
	6:40 PM	Ritz	Joyland	p.46
	7:00 PM	Event	Three Nights a Week	p.53
	8:30 PM	Event	Breaking the Ice	p.32
	8:40 PM	Ritz	#LookAtMe	p.30
	9:00 PM	Event	Guy on Guy Shorts	p.67
FRI 24 Feb	6:20 PM	Ritz	Punch	p.48
	6:30 PM	Event	You Can Live Forever	p.56
	6:40 PM	Ritz	Compulsus	p.34
	7:00 PM	Event	About Us But Not About Us	p.31
	8:30 PM	Event	The Five Devils	p.37
	8:45 PM	Ritz	Horseplay	p.44
	9:00 PM	Event	Chrissy Judy	p.32
SAT 25 Feb	12:00 PM	Dendy	All Man: The International Male Story	p.58
	2:00 PM	Dendy	BLACK AS U R	p.58
	4:15 PM	Dendy	This Place	p.52
	6:30 PM	Dendy	Where Butterflies Don't Fly	p.55

Date	Time	Venue	Film	Page
SUN 26 Feb	11:00 AM	UTS	Raya and the Last Dragon	p.24
	1:00 PM	Dendy	Framing Agnes	p.60
	2:00 PM	UTS	Pride	p.25
	3:00 PM	Dendy	Gateways Grind	p.61
	5:00 PM	UTS	Saving Face	p.25
	5:00 PM	Dendy	Breaking the Ice	p.32
	7:30 PM	UTS	Beautiful Thing	p.25
	7:30 PM	Dendy	Golden Delicious	p.38
MON 27 Feb	11:00 AM	Event	All Man: The International Male Story	p.58
	1:30 PM	Event	Afternoon Delight with The LOVE Project	p.14
	4:00 PM	Event	About Us But Not About Us	p.31
	6:20 PM	Ritz	A Place of Our Own	p.48
	6:30 PM	Event	The Inspection	p.45
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	7:00 PM	Event	My Queer Career	p.64
	8:30 PM	Event	Where Butterflies Don't Fly	p.55
TUE 28 Feb	11:30 AM	Event	Blitzed!	p.59
	1:30 PM	Event	Three Nights a Week	p.53
	4:00 PM	Event	Heartbeast	p.44
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	6:20 PM	Event	8 Years	p.30
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	8:40 PM	Event	Gay Shorts	p.67
WED 1 Mar	11:15 AM	Event	Eismayer	p.35
	1:30 PM	Event	The Five Devils	p.37
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	6:20 PM	Ritz	Lesbian Shorts	p.68
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	6:50 PM	Ritz	Casa Susanna	p.59
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	8:30 PM	Ritz	You Can Live Forever	p.56
	8:30 PM	Event	In from the Side	p.45
	THU 2 Mar	7:00 PM	Event	The Venus Effect

# Films On Demand Australia-wide 1-11 March

With 12 feature films and TBC shorts packages to enjoy online, from the comfort of your own home.

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All the Silence	p.48	My Queer Career	p.58
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Scan QR Code for FAQ and to book

## The Mattachine Family



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Andy Vallentine | USA | English | 99 mins |  
Unclassified 15+

Thomas (Nico Tortorella, *Younger*) is a great photographer, but getting his priorities in focus is another matter in this tender and funny film. After the foster son he was raising with his husband returns to his birth mother, Thomas is thrown for six. Also starring a brilliantly droll Emily Hampshire (*Schitt's Creek*), *The Mattachine Family* uses humour and pathos to tease questions about the path, and the people, we choose in life. **Presented with Macquarie Bank and Rainbow Families NSW.**

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Monica



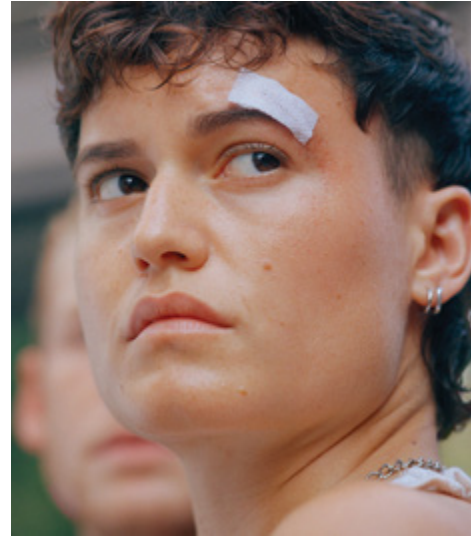
### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Andrea Pallaoro | USA, Italy | English | 113 mins |  
Unclassified 15+

When Monica (Trace Lysette, *Transparent*) receives a call from her sister-in-law (Emily Browning), it's the first contact she's had with her family in twenty years. Her mother (Patricia Clarkson) who disowned her is dying. Caught between the pain of rejection and desire for closure, she agrees to become her carer. But following her transition, does the woman who has caused her so much pain even recognise her? Powerful performances anchor this intimate and complex exploration of family and forgiveness. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Mutt



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Vuk Lungulov-Klotz | USA | English | 87 mins |  
Unclassified 15+

Starring non-binary heartthrob Lio Mehiel, a Special Jury Award-winner at Sundance for their performance, *Mutt* follows an eventful 24 hours in the life of twenty-something trans man Feña. Navigating life post-transition, Feña is thrown into a frenetic day in New York City where he reconnects with his ex-boyfriend, sister, and father for the first time since coming out. Writer-director Lungulov-Klotz deftly captures these complex relationships and queer identity with a knowing rawness that is authentic and real. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Norwegian Dream



Directed by Leiv Igor Devold | Norway, Poland, Germany | Polish, Norwegian, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 97 mins | Unclassified 15+

This heart-rending romantic drama is the story of Robert, a 19-year-old Polish immigrant who works in a fish processing factory in Norway. After falling for Ivar, the factory owner's son, Robert must choose to join Ivar and his co-workers in a strike for better working conditions or keep working to pay off his family's debts. An affecting portrait of a young man struggling to find his place in the world. *Content warning: see website.* **Presented with American Express.**

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Old Narcissus

NARRATIVE FEATURES



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Tsuyoshi Shōji | Japan | Japanese, English Subtitles | 110 mins | Unclassified 18+

This distinctly raw, erotically-charged drama delivers a powerfully melancholic portrait of ageing in Japan. Yamazaki, a 74 year-old children's author, has a fondness for sadomasochism. He's faced with a painful reminder of his lost youth and shattered relationships when he forms a uniquely intimate connection with Leo, a hired sex worker. Yet they both face a shared loneliness as they search for self-acceptance as gay men in a conservative society. *Content warning: see website.*

Screens with *State of Mind* (4 mins).

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Opponent



Directed by Milad Alami | Sweden, Norway | Swedish, Farsi, English Subtitles | 108 mins | Unclassified 15+

Iman, an Iranian wrestler turned refugee, reignites his wrestling career in the hope that competing for Sweden will support his young family's application for permanent asylum residence. A newfound friendship with Thomas, a handsome young teammate, forces Iman to confront his long-hidden desires – and the reasons he and his family fled from their homeland. A powerful exploration of masculinity, sexuality, and refugee life. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Our Son



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Bill Oliver | USA | English | 104 mins | Unclassified 15+

Boasting the power couple pairing of Billy Porter and Luke Evans, *Our Son* is a sensitive, nuanced take on the breakdown of a long-term marriage. As they slowly disentangle their lives from each other, the two find their own ways of healing and navigating their identities as newly single gay men and fathers. From custody battles in the courtroom to rediscovering themselves on the dancefloor, the film offers a beautiful take on the beginning of an end.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## The People's Joker



Directed by Vera Drew | USA | English | 92 mins | Unclassified 15+

What if *Joker* was actually about a trans woman coming out? That's the premise of *The People's Joker*, a surreal, handmade coming-of-age superhero parody which mixes live-action and animation to create a dystopian Gotham where comedy is illegal (unless sanctioned by Lorne Michaels). Drawing on writer-director-star Vera Drew's own coming out, she's crafted a funny yet achingly personal film about finding oneself in a world that has rejected you, that's truly one of a kind. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

NARRATIVE FEATURES



## Polarized



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Shamim Sarif | Canada | Arabic, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 104 mins | Unclassified 15+

Opposites attract in this subtle and beautifully composed Sapphic romance from writer-director Shamim Sarif (*I Can't Think Straight*). After her conservative Christian family loses their small farm, Lisa begins working at the innovative new “agri-farm” owned and operated by Dalia and her Palestinian Muslim family. While racial, religious and cultural tensions simmer, Lisa and Dalia nevertheless form an attraction that prompts both of them to consider what might be worth sacrificing in the journey to be themselves.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Power Alley



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Lillah Halla | Brazil, France, Uruguay | Portuguese, Spanish, English Subtitles | 92 mins | Unclassified 18+

A captivating debut showcasing the depth and beauty of queer sisterhood, this film follows 17-year-old volleyball player Sofia as she seeks out an abortion in conservative Brazil, where it is a crime. Supported by her new girlfriend and her teammates, she must confront the witchhunt perpetrated by her local community, while determinedly seeking a solution. A gripping film about women’s bodily rights that has never felt more relevant.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## The Queen of My Dreams



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Fawzia Mirza | Canada, Pakistan | Urdu, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 97 mins | Unclassified 15+

When queer Muslim student Azra travels from Canada to Pakistan following the death of her father, she struggles to navigate her relationship with her mother Mariam. But in 1960s Karachi, we discover a young Mariam went through her own journey of self-discovery. In their feature directorial debut, Fawzia Mirza seamlessly weaves these two tales together, in this moving exploration of grief and cultural identity that celebrates classic Bollywood cinema. *Content warning: see website.* This film was a Queer Screen Goes to Cannes selection. Presented with Advance Diversity Services and Trikone.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Silver Haze



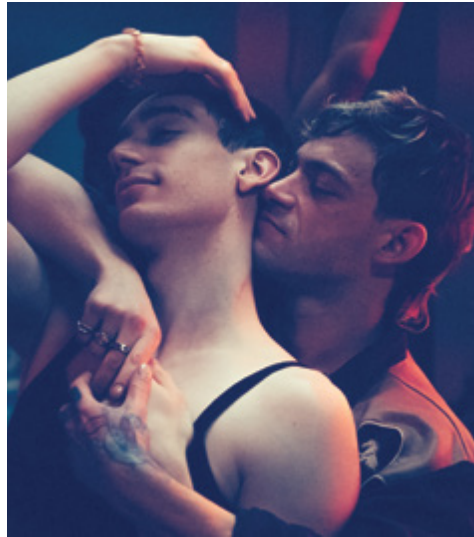
### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Sacha Polak | Netherlands, UK | English | 102 mins | Unclassified 15+

It's been fifteen years since Franky, a working-class nurse, was scarred in a fire. She's spent her days since yearning for revenge, but when she meets the impulsive and beautiful Florence, a patient, her life is changed forever. Through their families, their friends and the pressures of their socio-economic standing, Florence and Franky unpack the ways that they deal with trauma and discover what lines they'll draw in the sand to finally heal. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Solo



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Sophie Dupuis | Canada | French, English Subtitles | 101 mins | Unclassified 18+

This stylish and vibrant film follows Simon (Théodore Pellerin), an up-and-coming star in the Montreal drag scene, when he meets new performer Olivier (Felix Maritaud, *Savage*). Instant attraction leads to an all-consuming but toxic relationship, slowly leading to Simon losing his sense of self. This love story parallels Simon's estranged relationship with his absent mother, who has returned to Canada after a 15 year absence. Will Simon find the love he craves?. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Split



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Iris Brey | France | French, English Subtitles | 94 mins | Unclassified 18+

When stuntwoman Anna meets the magnetic famous actress she's doubling for while shooting a film, she unlocks a part of her she'd always kept hidden. What starts as an innocent exchange of glances soon ignites into a turbulent, sensual love affair. Directed by a French feminist author and filmed with an 80% female crew, *Split* is a daring, innovative and genre-bending unpacking of power and trauma through a queer feminist lens. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Summer Solstice



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Noah Schamus | USA | English | 81 mins |  
Unclassified 15+

Aspiring actor Leo struggles to find roles with the limited options offered to trans masc actors. His personal life is no better, as he searches for more than just average sex and non-committal relationships. When he reconnects with his old friend Eleanor, who only knew him pre-transition, they head off on an impromptu road trip. Along the way they uncover old secrets and new challenges, in this touching and amusing exploration of friendship through change. *Screens with The Dalles (12 mins).*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## The Summer with Carmen



Directed by Zacharias Mavroeidis | Greece | Greek, English  
Subtitles | 106 mins | Unclassified 18+

Intriguing, sexy and unique – Zacharias Mavroeidis’s film will get under your skin, in the best way. As gay best mates Demosthenes and Nikitas chill out on one of Athens’ cruising beaches, they reflect on the life-changing period when Demosthenes broke up with his partner, in the hope of finding inspiration for a film script. A funny, poignant look at relationships, friendships, intimacy and pet ownership, set against a steamy Greek summer.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## When Time Got Louder



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Connie Cocchia | Canada | English | 114 mins |  
Unclassified 15+

Lesbian teenager Abbie understands her brother Kayden like no one else does. He’s talented, kind, artistic and so much more – yet many just see his non-verbal autism. But when Abbie leaves for college, it becomes clear that Kayden’s future might look very different from hers. While Abbie is studying illustration, making new friends and flirting with the alluring Karly, Kayden struggles to cope with the change. *Content warning: see website. Screens with Neuromance (13 mins). Writer-director Connie Cocchia and actor Piper Curda in attendance for Q&A.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Who’ll Stop the Rain



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by I-Hsuan Su | Taiwan | Mandarin, English Subtitles  
| 114 mins | Unclassified 15+

Evocative and romantic, *Who’ll Stop the Rain* is a powerful story of two girls who fall in love while protesting for creative freedom in post-martial law Taipei. In 1994, art student Chi-wei joins a student protest group where she meets and develops feelings for one of the leaders, Ching. During this changing political time in Taiwan, the two girls find love and camaraderie while fighting for creative expression. *Content warning: see website. Writer-director I-Hsuan Su in attendance for Q&A. Presented with the Cultural Division, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Sydney.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St



## Every Body



Directed by Julie Cohen | USA | English | 92 mins | M

What would you do if you found out a secret that had been hidden from you since birth? What if the secret is about your own body? This is the reality for many intersex people, and the subjects of this riveting documentary are speaking out against the traditions of sensationalism, silence, secrecy and shame. River Gallo, Alicia Roth Weigel and Sean Saifa Wall celebrate their authentic selves, existing as confident, empowered intersex people in the public eye. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Happy Clothes: A Film About Patricia Field



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Scout Durwood | USA | English | 91 mins | Unclassified 15+

One woman connects *Sex and the City*, *The Devil Wears Prada* and *Emily in Paris*: fashion stylist extraordinaire Pat Field. In this doco, the openly gay Field recalls her rock-star life, mingling with the cool kids at her New York City boutique, before moving into film and television. Featuring interviews with some of the A-list stars she's worked with, including Sarah Jessica Parker, Lily Collins and Kim Cattrall, *Happy Clothes* is simply fabulous. **Presented with American Express.**

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Isla's Way



Directed by Marion Pilowsky | Australia | English | 84 mins | Unclassified 15+

Follow Isla, a sharp-shooting and hilarious octogenarian with a love for horse driving carriages, in this quirky documentary. Isla lives with her girlfriend on a farm in regional South Australia – though she still calls herself a widow, having raised four children with a man. In this heartwarming and humorous portrait, we watch resilient and rebellious Isla living her life to the fullest, and refusing to be boxed in by any societal expectations. **Presented with ACON's The LOVE Project.**

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Kokomo City



Directed by D. Smith | USA | English | 73 mins | Unclassified 18+

Trans director D. Smith's Sundance-winning documentary opens with a bang and never lets its foot off the gas as it boldly explores the lives of four Black trans sex workers – and the men who love them. Liyah, Daniella, Dominique and the late Koko Da Doll recount hilarious anecdotes, talk politics and hold their own community accountable while a Greek chorus of lovers, clients and potential suitors provide frank commentary. *Content warning: see website. Screens with Thriving: A Dissociated Reverie (10 mins).* **Presented with Antenna Documentary Film Festival.**

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## The Last Year of Darkness



Directed by Benjamin Mullinkosson | China, USA | Mandarin, English Subtitles | 95 mins | Unclassified 15+

This pumping, neon-coloured portrait of alternative Chinese youth is centred on the raucous underground nightclub, Funky Town – a vibrant space that exists on borrowed time. It's the last bastion of queer underground partying in Chengdu, earmarked for demolition to make way for a metro. The documentary is a radiant portrait of the free-spirited, alternative youth subculture of DJs, drag artists, lovers and ravers that call Funky Town home from dusk 'til dawn. *Content warning: see website.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Mad About the Boy: The Noël Coward Story



Directed by Barnaby Thompson | UK | English | 91 mins | Unclassified 15+

Debonair, witty, talented – Noël Coward was all this and more. This fascinating documentary, narrated by Alan Cumming and Rupert Everett, tells the remarkable story of the urbane multihyphenate – prolific playwright, songwriter, actor – who became one of the biggest stars of his time all while keeping his sexuality a secret. This is a brilliant portrait of a gay legend, the likes of which the entertainment industry may never see again.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Mel



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Inna Sahakyan, Paul Cohen | Armenia, Netherlands | Armenian, English Subtitles | 75 mins | Unclassified 15+

Armenian weightlifter Mel Daluzyan was a beloved national champion who won medals and broke world records – before his transition. But for Mel every victory was laced with sadness, as the world did not see him as the man he knew he was. Hoping to come out privately and eventually compete as a man, his life is turned upside down when he is publicly outed and anti-trans protests sweep the nation.

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Playland



### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Directed by Georden West | USA | English | 72 mins | Unclassified 15+

An eclectic ensemble of queer performers star in this experimental documentary-narrative hybrid queer collage, focusing on a temporal night at the Playland Café, Boston's oldest gay bar. Following the staff and patrons that haunt the space, it weaves together a tapestry of personal and community anecdotes from across the renowned venue's existence. An uncanny and inventive film, it reminds us that though certain pioneering queer spaces may be gone, their memories cannot be erased. *Content warning: see website. Screens with I Can See The Sun but I Can't Feel It Yet (20 mins).*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Shape



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Roger Ungers | Australia | English | 90 mins |  
Unclassified 15+

An important Australian documentary exploring how social media, advertising, hook-up apps and the clubbing scene can foster an unhealthy pressure to have a “hot” body in the gay community. Featuring interviews with a diverse range of subjects, *Shape* explores many of the defining factors that influence gay men to obsess over their looks and the negative repercussions when body image is inextricably linked to toxic masculinity, racism, ageism and femmephobia. *Content warning: see website. Screens with FA(C)TS (8 mins). Followed by a panel discussion expanding the conversation to include other members of the LGBTQ+ community.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

## Summer Qamp



### SYDNEY PREMIERE

Directed by Jen Markowitz | Canada | English | 80 mins |  
Unclassified 15+

LGBTQ+ youth travel from across Canada for a blissful summer retreat, in one of the year’s most joyous and affirming documentaries. At Camp fYrefly, queer teens get the space to escape from the personal hardships and simply be themselves in an environment of like-minded people. At a time when LGBTQ+ youths’ very existence is under public debate, director Jen Markowitz captures the powerful impact that establishing supportive spaces can have. *Content warning: see website. Screens with BLUSH – An Extraordinary Voyage (15 mins). Presented with Twenty10.*

DAY MONTH TIME, Event George St

# My Queer Career

MON 26 FEB 7PM, Event George St  
109 mins | Unclassified 15+

MY QUEER CAREER

## Cold Water



Directed by Jay Perry, Shaun Perry | Produced by Brayden Alden | 20 mins

In St Kilda, an elderly woman's peaceful retirement is interrupted when her husband takes up a bizarre new hobby.

## Cusp



Directed by Erika Felton | Produced by Alex Martin, Erika Felton | 10 mins

As the dust settles on her goodbye party, Nora must face her best friend Maude and come to terms with what it means to leave her other half behind.

## CUT



Directed by Samuel Lucas Allen | Produced by Richard James Allen, Martin Thorne, Samuel Lucas Allen | 19 mins

Teenager Daniel struggles to juggle his different identities, between his relationship with his Orthodox Jewish father, his secret lover Isaac and his edgelord classmates with burgeoning neo-Nazi sympathies.

## Good Times and That's Okay



Directed by Amanda Kaye | Produced by David Gim, Amanda Kaye | 13 mins

A 70 year-old closeted woman has to confront her faith as she learns what true love is from a sex worker named Destiny.

MY QUEER CAREER

## Hyperconnect



Directed by Jim Muntisov | Produced by Jim Muntisov, Imogen Archer | 15 mins

Remy is confronted with the realities of post-lockdown life when communication with their online best friend begins to break down.

## Marungka Tjaltjunu (Dipped in Black)



Directed by Matthew Thorne, Derik Lynch | Produced by Matthew Thorne, Patrick Graham | 24 mins

Yankuntjatjara man Derik Lynch sets out on a roadtrip from life in Adelaide, back home to his remote Anangu Community, as memories from his childhood return.

## The Pansy of Pickadee



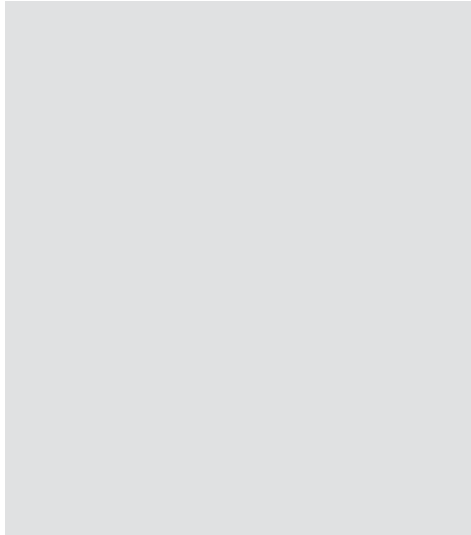
Directed by Gus George, Paddy Morahan | Produced by Nick Jaquinot | 8 mins

A bittersweet line-drawn animation that celebrates a brave queer hero who saves a small Victorian Town on the brink of disaster while indulging the love of saucy rhyming couplets.

## Proudly Supported by



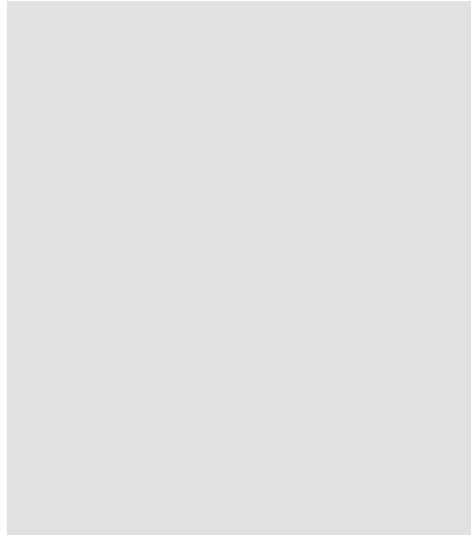
## Asia-Pacific Shorts



China, India, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, USA | Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, English Subtitles | 89 mins | Unclassified 15+

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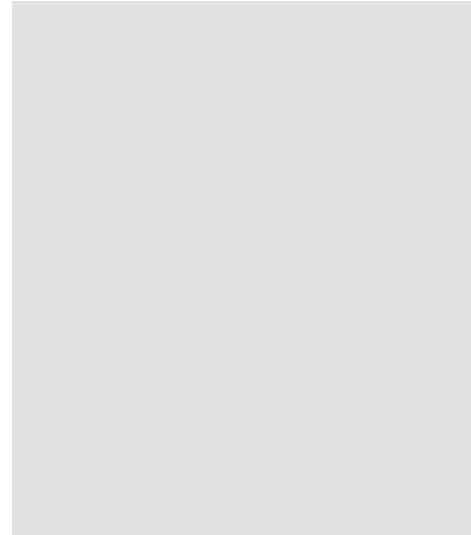
## Bi+ Shorts



Argentina, Australia, UK, USA | Spanish, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 91 mins | Unclassified 15+

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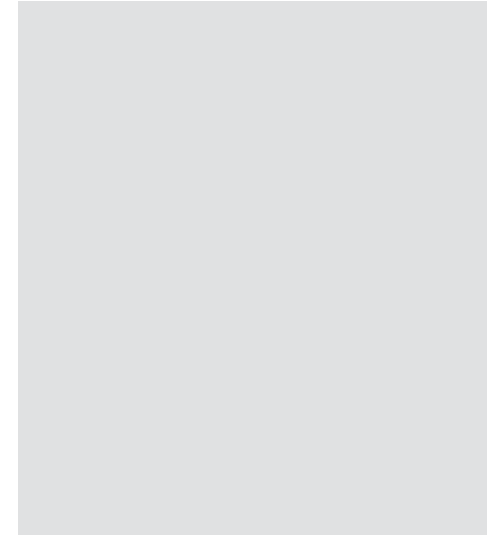
## Comedy Shorts



Australia, Canada, USA | English | 93 mins | Unclassified 15+

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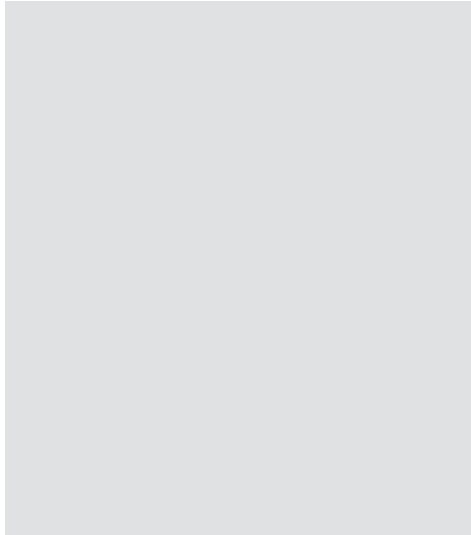
## Gay Shorts



TBC | TBC | # mins | Unclassified 15+

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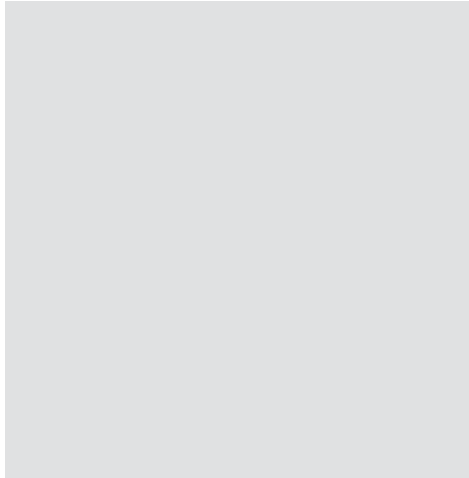
## Hot Boys Shorts



Australia, Brazil, Germany, Mexico, Switzerland, USA | German, Portuguese, Spanish, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 91 mins | Unclassified 18+

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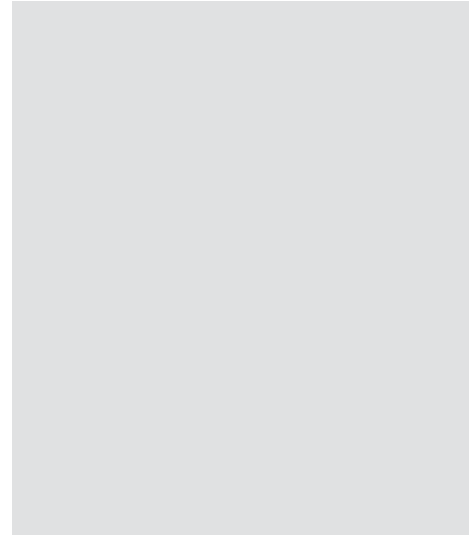
## Non-Binary & Gender Diverse Shorts



Canada, Italy, UK, USA | Italian, Spanish, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 99 mins | Unclassified 15+

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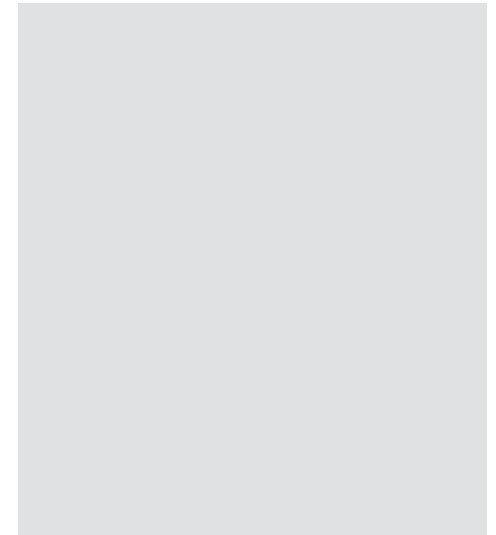
## QueerDoc Shorts



Country | Language | # mins | Unclassified 15+

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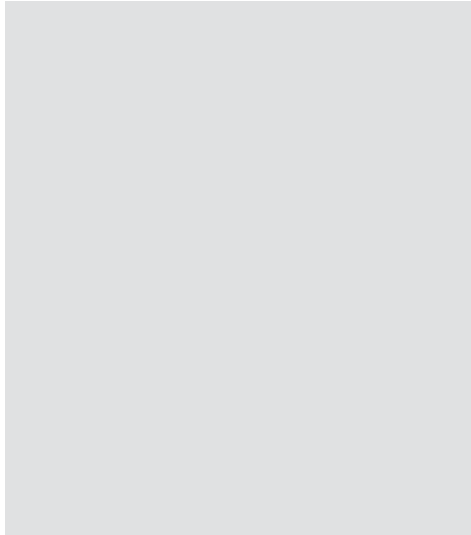
## QueerScream Shorts



Australia, Russia, Spain, USA | Russian, Spanish, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 94 mins | Unclassified 18+

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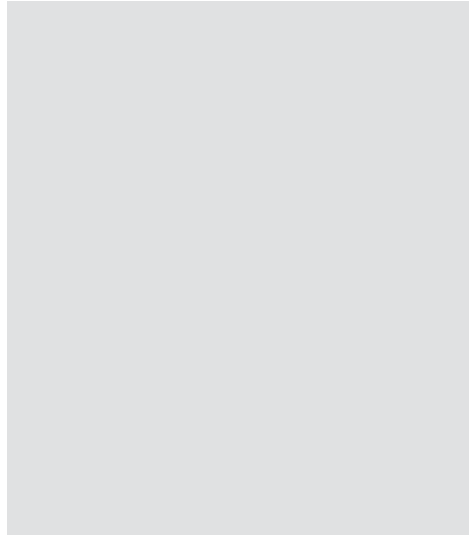
## Sapphic Shorts



Australia, Poland, UK, USA | Cantonese, Polish, Spanish, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 99 mins | Unclassified 15+

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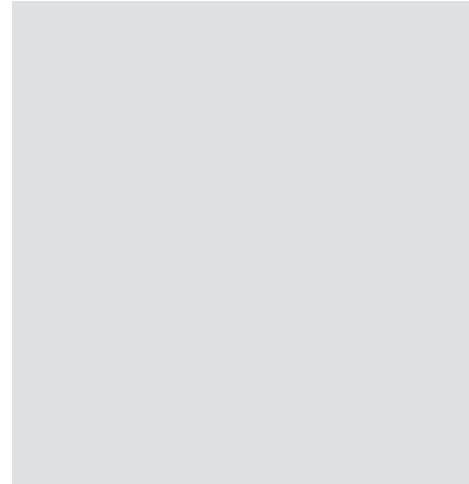
## Transgender Shorts



TBC | TBC | ## mins | Unclassified 18+

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## Women Loving Women Shorts



Australia, China, Croatia, France, Poland, USA | French, Mandarin, Polish, English Subtitles, English without Subtitles | 95 mins | Unclassified 18+

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# Queer Screen On Tour

## Blue Mountains

### Mount Vic Flicks, Blue Mountains

2A Harley Ave, Mount Victoria NSW 2786

## Venues

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Queer Screen's 31st Mardi Gras Film Festival will be screening at different venues across Sydney. Please make sure to check the location when making a booking to confirm it is convenient for you.

There will also be select films showing online On Demand. These are accessible from all over Australia. Please see page 43 for more details.

Our in-person sessions do not have assigned seating, so please prepare for some queuing ahead of the session. We ask for patience and kindness to our staff and volunteers, who will be happy to answer any questions.

Stop the spread of COVID-19. If you are feeling unwell, please stay at home. In this event, please contact [access@queerscreen.org.au](mailto:access@queerscreen.org.au) for exchange options.

### Event Cinemas, George St

505/525 George St, Sydney NSW 2000

### Westpac OpenAir Sydney

Mrs Macquaries Point Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney NSW 2000

### Ritz Cinemas, Randwick

45 St Pauls St, Randwick NSW 2031

### Hayden Orpheum, Cremorne

380 Military Rd, Cremorne NSW 2090

### Dendy Cinemas, Newtown

261-263 King St, Newtown NSW 2042

### Event Cinemas, Hurstville

Rooftop Westfield Shopping Centre Cnr Park Road &, Cross St, Hurstville NSW

### Sydney Opera House Playhouse

Bennelong Point, Sydney NSW 2000

### The Bearded Tit

183 Regent St, Redfern NSW 2016

For full information on venue access and travel tips please visit [queerscreen.org.au/venues/](https://queerscreen.org.au/venues/)

## MGFF24 on Tour

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Join us as we take the festival to cinemas in the Blue Mountains and Canberra!

### Mount Vic Flicks, Blue Mountains

2A Harley Ave, Mount Victoria NSW 2786

### National Film and Sound Archive of Australia, Canberra

McCoy Cct, Acton ACT 2601

# Accessibility

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Queer Screen welcomes all visitors to our screenings and events, and endeavours to increase the accessibility of the 31st Mardi Gras Film Festival. For venue-specific access information please visit [queerscreen.org.au/venues](http://queerscreen.org.au/venues).

## Access Enquiries

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For all access enquiries, please email [access@queerscreen.org.au](mailto:access@queerscreen.org.au). You can now notify us of your needs when you book your ticket so we can make your visit as enjoyable as possible! Whether it's wheelchair access, or first access to the cinema, we are here to help. You can also sign up to be notified of access information as it is updated.

## Quiet Space

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We know not everyone can wait in a long queue, and so we have set up a Quiet Space at our venues to wait for cinema doors to open away from the crowds for people unable to stand for long periods, or who have sensory needs. Please inform a volunteer if you would like to use this area and they will guide you.

## Companion Cards

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Queer Screen proudly accepts Companion Cards to all sessions. For guests who require assistance of a companion or carer, a second ticket is issued at no cost to the Companion Card holder. Email a copy of your companion card to [ticketing@queerscreen.org.au](mailto:ticketing@queerscreen.org.au) to enable companion ticketing on your account.

## Wheelchair Spaces

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Queer Screen's 31st Mardi Gras Film Festival venues have a limited number of wheelchair spaces available for every session. Please sign up to accessibility updates when you book your tickets for more information.

## Relaxed Screening

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Queer Screen is proud to present our first Relaxed Screening, a session where the environment has been adapted to be more welcoming and accessible to people with additional needs, such as sensory sensitivities. We will leave lights on during the film and lower the sound volume – and customers are encouraged to get up and move around, or speak or make noise if they want to/feel the need to. This will be the Sunday 25 February screening of *The Harvest* (p.36).

## Content Warnings

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Queer Screen is proud to present queer cinema from all over the world as part of our festivals. We understand that people have differing limits, but we've worked hard to provide appropriate content warnings for applicable films. That said, triggering themes can vary from person to person. If you need further information about the content of any of the films, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us and we'll be happy to answer your questions.

## Hidden Disabilities Sunflower

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Queer Screen is a member of the global Sunflower network. Our staff and volunteers have been trained to help those who may need extra support or more time.

# Accessible Screenings

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[Open Captions & Auslan Interpreter for Introduction & Q&A](#)

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[Films with Relaxed Screenings](#)

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[Open Captions \(In Cinema\)](#)

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[Films with Subtitles](#)

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[Films with Closed Captions \(On Demand\)](#)

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All foreign languages in films are subtitled in English unless otherwise noted. This does not include full open captions.

# Membership

## A Friendship with Benefits

Queer Screen members save 15% on ticket prices (even more if you purchase a multi-film Festival Pass), gain priority entry to our festival screenings and more. And, your support helps us do what we do best: keep the big screen queer and provide much needed support for queer filmmakers.

Membership has four tiers to choose from, from Standard to Super Deluxe, and the perks get better and better. The top two levels even come with a ticket for EVERY session at the Mardi Gras Film Festival. Pretty incredible!

Please visit [queerscreen.org.au/support-us/membership](http://queerscreen.org.au/support-us/membership)

# Gala Events

- Opening Night Gala: *Femme* (p.6)
- Closing Night Gala: *Housekeeping for Beginners* (p.7)
- Australian Showcase Film + Parties (p.16-19)

Full Price	\$40.00
Concession	\$37.00
Queer Screen Member	\$36.00

Gala events include an after party. Film Only tickets are also available. Festival Passes can be used to redeem Film Only tickets – Party Add-On tickets are available at an additional charge.

# Special Events

- All of Us Strangers* (p.10) – from \$38.00 (Westpac OpenAir only)
- Music from Queer Film Concert* (p.12) - from \$35.00
- Days of Happiness* (p.13) - from \$20.00
- Concert and Film Multipack* (p.12-13) – from \$51.00

# Festival Tickets

## In Cinema

Full	\$22.00
Concession	\$19.00
Queer Screen Members	\$18.00
Youth (15-25 year-olds)*	\$10.00
Community (pg 28)	\$10.00
Supportix (pg 55)	Free

\*Youth Tickets will be available to purchase from the Box Office on the day of the screening, for any non-sold out sessions, excluding at Westpac OpenAir Cinema and the Sydney Opera House Playhouse.

## Weekday Matinee

Full	\$15.00
Concession	\$14.00
Queer Screen Members	\$13.00

## On Demand

Full Price	\$12.00
Queer Screen Members	\$10.00
Full Price Household Tickets	\$18.00
Member Household Tickets	\$15.00

# Festival Passes

Heading to the cinema? Want the flexibility to also watch online On Demand? Grab a Festival Flexi Pass!

FESTIVAL FLEXI PASS	MEMBER	FULL
Any 5 films	\$75	\$95
Any 10 films	\$145	\$180

Festival flexi passes are valid for in cinema and On Demand sessions, excluding at Westpac OpenAir Cinema and the Sydney Opera House Playhouse.

ONLINE PASS	MEMBER	FULL
Any 5 On Demand films	\$45	\$54
On Demand All In	\$TBC	\$TBC

Get your passes and membership at [queerscreen.org.au](http://queerscreen.org.au).

# Tour Pricing

Festival Passes can be redeemed for MGFF24 on Tour screenings.

## Canberra

Full	\$19.90
Concession	\$17.90
Queer Screen Members	\$16.90

## Blue Mountains

Full	\$15.00
Concession	\$13.00
Queer Screen Members	\$12.00

# Where and how to buy your tickets!

## Online & Over the Phone Bookings

Visit [queerscreen.org.au](http://queerscreen.org.au) to book tickets via our website.

Download the Queer Screen app visit Google Play or the App Store.

Phone 02 9280 1533 for telephone bookings, between 10am - 5pm weekdays.

## In Person Bookings

### Before the Festival

By appointment only, we cannot accept walk-ins. Please call 02 9280 1533 to arrange a time.

Queer Screen Office  
Powerhouse Museum  
500 Harris St, Sydney  
10am - 5pm weekdays.

### During the Festival

Tickets for all sessions are available from the Queer Screen Box Office at all venues unless sold out, excluding Westpac Open Air Cinema and Sydney Opera House Playhouse. The Box Office opens one hour before the first session of the day at that venue.

## Classification

Please check the classification of the screenings you are attending. Anyone under the age of 18 will not be allowed into 18+ sessions. Anyone under the age of 15 will not be allowed into 15+ sessions unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Visit [queerscreen.org.au](http://queerscreen.org.au) for full terms and conditions.

# Who We Are

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**Festival Director:** Lisa Rose

**Festival Producer:** Michael McCurdie

**Head of Partnerships:** Paul Kennedy,  
paul.kennedy@queerscreen.org.au

**Marketing Specialist:** Ash Gray

**Partnerships Coordinator:** Madeleine Doyle

**Programming Assistant & Industry  
Coordinator:** Andrew Wilkie

**Production & Volunteer Coordinator:**  
Zeynep Smith

**Digital & Content Coordinator:**  
Shayne De Groot

**Ticketing & Customer Service**

**Coordinator:** Caitlin Goldfinch

**Publicity:** Kyle Goldfinch

**Graphic Design & Illustration:** Luke Tribe

**Web Design:** Design Logic

**Festival Trailer:** Benjamin Beaman at  
The Editors, Animation by Luke Tribe

**Junior Graphic Designer:** Peak Distapan

**Bookkeeper:** Adam Bold

**Production Intern:** Alex Mcleay

**Marketing Intern:** Peter Andrew

**Key Volunteers:** TBC.

**Board of Directors**

**Co-Chairs:** Abs Osseiran, Angela Ruchin

**Treasurer:** Abs Osseiran

**Company Secretary:** Lara Sabbadin

**Directors:** Finn O'Keefe (Digital  
Engagement), Ian Goshko (Members &  
Volunteers), Rosario Mugnaini (Funding)

**Associate Treasurer:** Michelle Mutchnik

**Associates:** Anthony Young, David Libter,  
Erika Felton, Jessica Liley, Michael Rolik,  
Mike Whalley, Mike Worsley, Ted Rose

# Thanks

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**Queer Screen would like to thank...**

All our sponsors, media partners,  
community partners, venue partners,  
sales agents & distributors, filmmakers,  
volunteers, members, donors and  
advertisers.

**Our Donors**

Donate at [queerscreen.org.au/support-us/donate](https://queerscreen.org.au/support-us/donate) to be added to the program and support us in bringing you queer cinema at our festivals, like these amazing people:

**True Love**

Andrew Pickles, Craig Roberts, David Buchanan, David Libter, Evelyn Perusco, Geoff Annabel, Janel Carozza, Jodie Camden, Kelley & Grant Drury-Green, Manivannan Gopalakrishnan, Mark Proffit, Peter Grimison, Peter James ACS, Richard Cobden, Roy Bishop, Trevor Parkin

**Top 100**

Aaron Sue, Allan David Buckley, Andrew Narracott, Andy Haslem, Anonymous x2, Cat Fay, Chris Pycroft, Clive Miller, Craig Kneebone, David Laidley, Dennis Berry, Giovanni Campolo-Arcidiaco, Ian Adrian, Ian Goshko, Jane Radford, Jean Duruz, John Tsioulos, K Thorne, Ken Finlayson, Marguerite Pain, Mark Allen, Melissa Mcadam, Meredith Williams, Michael Narciso, Patrick McIntyre, Philip O'Donnell, Richard Weiss, Robert Eidus, Robin Carter, Sally Chik, Sandra Cook, Sandra Serra, Sanouk Peiper, Stephen Bailey, Stephen Gates, Su Goldfish, Sylvain Goumand, Tony Radevski, Terry Batterham, Vicki Harding

**Our Members**

A huge shout out to the Queer Screen members who contribute to keeping the screens queer! And a very special thanks to our:

**Super Deluxe Members**

Abs Osseiran, Brad Booth, Brian Abel, David Libter, Evelyn Perusco, Ian Foxton, Manivannan Gopalakrishnan, Megan McLachlan, Owen Evans, Richard Cobden,

Presenting Partner



Major Partners



Government Partners



## Volunteer at the Mardi Gras Film Festival!

Queer Screen is powered by volunteers at every level from the Board to cinema ushers, and has always enjoyed tremendous support from our community.

Our emphasis is on having fun and making new friends, as much as working hard for all our events!

**Opportunities are available in these areas:**

- Marketing
- Social Media
- Content Writing
- Funding
- Production
- Photography
- Video Production
- Events and more!

If you are interested in joining us, please visit [timecounts.org/queerscreen-vollies](http://timecounts.org/queerscreen-vollies)



Presenting Partner

OPTUS

Major Partners



Sponsors

Government Partners



Signature Supporters

Major Media Partner



Venue Partners



Media Partners

Digital Design Partner



Supporters

