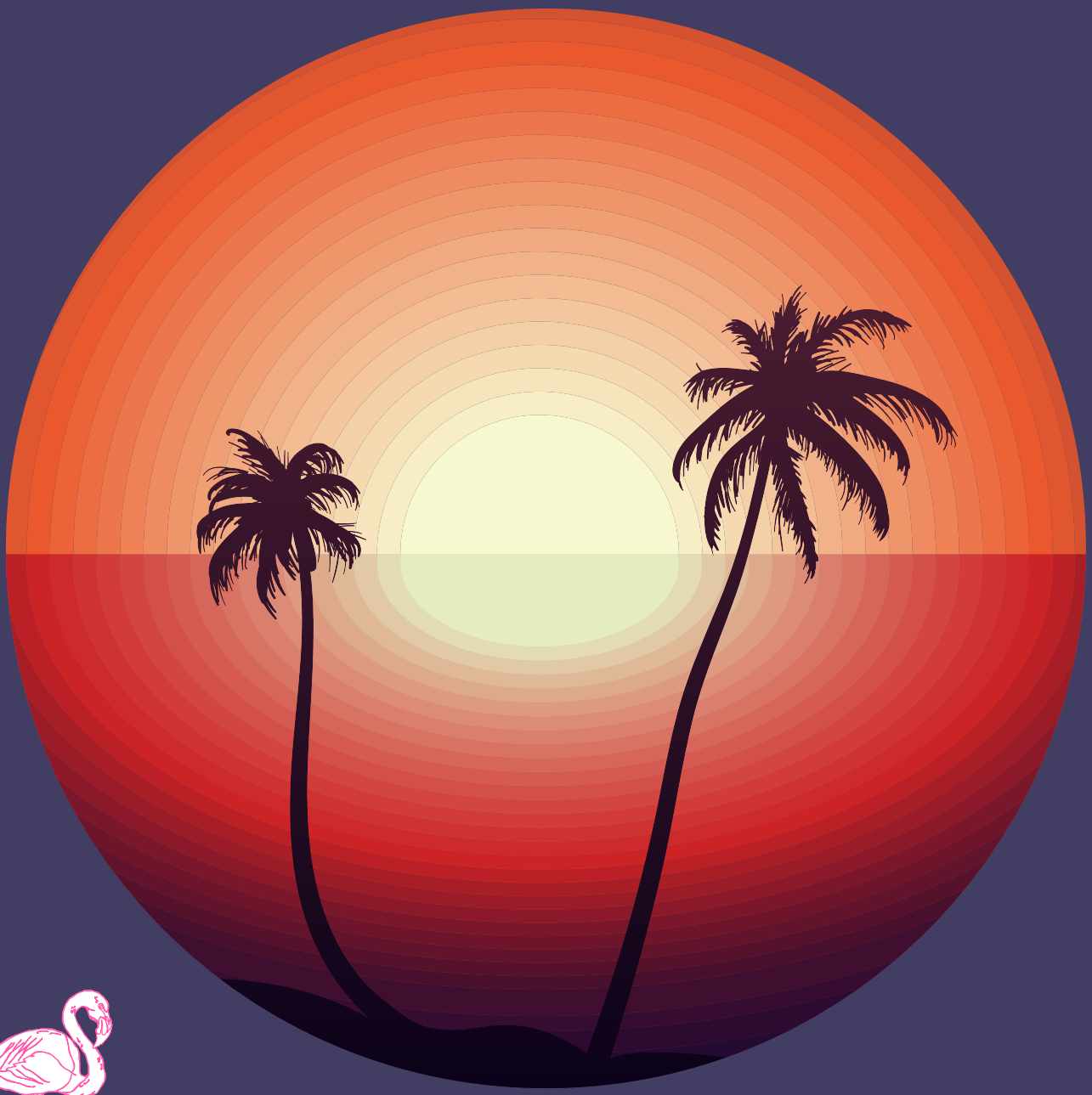
Ninth annual
Setting Sun Film Festival
2022 Program



Sun Theatre, Kindred Studios, online

The Council is delighted to see the Setting Sun Short Film Festival back for its ninth year in Maribyrnong.

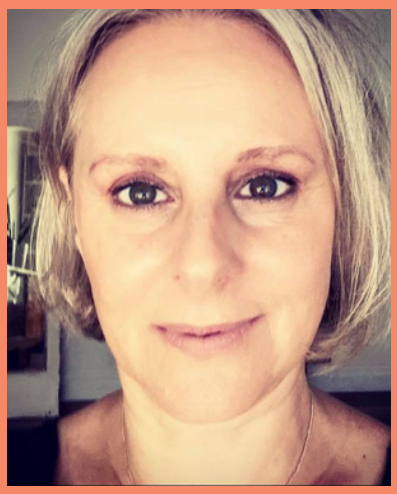
Proudly supported by our Festival City program, the short film festival showcases films inspired by the many different cultures that make up Maribyrnong's community celebrating and promoting the works of filmmakers across Australia and the globe.

A range of films, celebrating diversity and inclusion will screen this year, including Greek and Italian programs, as well as films from Europe to South America and the Middle East.

Congratulations to everyone involved in this fantastic event – film makers, The Sun Theatre, Kindred Studios and the Setting Sun Short Film Festival team, and in particular, Festival Director Anna Bourozikas, who has worked tirelessly over the years to champion the unsung talent in the west.

I encourage you all to explore the program and show your support.

City of Maribyrnong Mayor | Cr Anthony Tran



Hello,

welcome to the Ninth Annual Setting Sun Film Festival.

After cancelling our physical festivals in 2020 and 2021, we look forward to finally being able to present a physical festival without the fear of another Covid lockdown.

We're looking forward to seeing you at our popular Opening Night celebration to be held at the Sun Theatre, rated as one of the world's 50 most beautiful theatres by Time Out.

We're really excited about our innovative programme this year. We're delivering an exciting and diverse schedule of films in a series of physical and online events. Take your time reading through this programme.

This year, to honour our commitment to onscreen cultural diversity and the cultural roots of the inner west, we are featuring a Greek programme with films from the Athens shortfilm festival; an Italian programme featuring a feature length documentary and shortfilms; our annual female filmmakers' programme presented in partnership with the Women in Film and TV (Vic) and a programme featuring films made by filmmakers with disabilities, highlight disability or a Deaf

We are also screening a series of films made by local Melbourne and emerging filmmakers at Kindred Studios.

For people unable to come to the festival, we have programmed an exciting, selection of online programmes that will start in the second week of the festival. These programs will be free and will feature international films, a youth program and features.

We have a great selection of award-winning films to entertain you. Book a ticket and come to a session.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible through the week. And of course, I look forward to drinking a glass of champagne on Opening Night and meeting the winners.

Take care,
Anna Bourozikas
Founder and Festival Director

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Photographed by
Felix Manzano

OFFICIAL SELECTION Home Is Distant Shores 2022

OFFICIAL SELECTION ASTI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2021

NYIFA NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARDS BEST ETHNOGRAPHIC FILM WINNER

NYIFA NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARDS BEST DOCUMENTARY FINALIST

OFFICIAL SELECTION FIORENZO SERRA FILM FESTIVAL 2021

OFFICIAL SELECTION HIIFF - Heart International Italian Film Festival 2022

MEMORIES THAT MAKE US

stories of post World War Two Italian migration to Australia

Directed by **Martin Potter** Produced by **Martin Potter** **Sean Redmond** **Toija Cinque**

Project Manager **Fotis Kapetopoulos** Researcher **Riccardo Schirru**

Supported by **CO.AS.IT the Italian Assistance Association**

and the **School of Communication and Creative Arts, Deakin University**

Sun Theatre

Opening Night
Thursday 5th May
Barkly theatre
Doors open 7pm
Tickets: Sun Theatre

Flawless (comedy) France 15.00
Dir. Nathan Franck
Samuel and Agnes find themselves stuck in the elevator just after the first tried try to steal the bag of the second. Behind closed doors, aggressor and victim confront each other.

Dry Fire (drama) Australia 22.32
Dir. Dan Farmer, Adam Bigum, Ramas McRae
A hunter and his protégé are tasked with a mission to hunt for food in the Australian bush during a post-apocalyptic future.

Fire Rabbit (drama) Australia 15.14
Dir. Jack Wilson-Lee
In rural Australia in the Great Depression, Sam and his older brother James are punished by their stepfather with the task of finding food before the day's end.

Baba (doco) Australia 8.00
Dir. Firass Dirani
'Baba', which means 'Dad' in Arabic, tells the heart-warming story of Mohamad Abbas Dirani, a Lebanese-Australian immigrant, and his ambitions as a young shepherd.

Painting My Canvas (doco) Australia 5.43
Dir. Mark Hellinger
Stephen Whittaker has endured more than most people. From time spent living on the street, in jail, and drug-affected it wasn't until much later in his life did he find peace.

Heading South (drama) United States 12.54
Dir. Yuan Yuan
Eight year old Chasuna travels from her home on grassland to visit her father who lives in the big city only to discover he is married.

Little Fish (drama) Australia 9.34 Dir. Benjamin Laut
A Grandfather spends the day with his Granddaughter while her Mother is in hospital.

Feeling Through (drama) United States 18.00
Dir. Doug Roland
Feeling Through, the first film to star a Deafblind actor, is a coming-of-age story that follows Tereek, a teen wandering the streets of New York, desperate for a place to crash when he encounters Artie, a Deafblind man in need of help getting home.

Sun Theatre

Italian Programme
7pm 6th May
La Scala Theatre

Tickets: Sun Theatre

Films in Italian or about the Italian Australian experience. Shorts and feature length doco.

Annunziata: An Italian Immigration Story (doco) Australia 6.10
Dir. Natalie Cicciarelli
In a coming-of-age tale, Italian immigrant Annunziata Cicciarelli recounts how the promise of Australia led her to leave her small town in Reggio Calabria, Italy as a newlywed seventeen-year-old girl.

Gas Station (Sub Eng) (drama) Italy 9.59
Dir. Olga Torrico
Alice works at a gas station. She has abandoned her musical dreams. On a sultry summer day, her old music teacher shows up.

Good Gnocchi (doco) Australia 17.10
Dir. Stephen Di Gravio
Filmmaker Stephen Di Gravio attempts to seriously document his eccentric yet loveable Italian grandparents despite their best efforts to talk over each other, go off on elongated tangents, and show off their impressive collections of gnomes, family photos and fresh produce.

Memories That Make Us (feature, doco) Australia 70.00
Dir. Martin Potter
Memories That Make Us is a poetic, ethnographic documentary that draws on the individual and collective memories of ordinary Italian migrants who made Victoria, Australia their home after the end of the second world war.

The Greek Centre

A selection of films from the Athens Short Film Festival
7pm 7th May

Tickets: Greek Centre

Beauty (drama) 20.00
Dir. Thanos Liberopoulos
Callie, an unemployed young woman living with her controlling mother, is looking for a way out through the glittery yet cruel YouTube beauté universe.

Just Like Water (drama) 12.54
Dir Manos Triantafillakis
The movie is about the father of the director, Spyros, his life and experiences.

Soul Food (drama) 24.09
Dir. Nikos Tseberopoulos
Yannis (15) and his mother are moving in, at her boyfriend's apartment. Yannis starts hanging out with Olga (40), a socially secluded hard rock woman who lives in the basement of his apartment building.

Violetta (drama) 14.50
Dir. Fivos Imellos
After the sudden death of Violetta's mother, her father is looking for a way to renew their relationship.

Amygdala (horror) 22.21
Dir. Maria Hatzakou
Two sisters, Anna and Melina spend the last days of the summer in their vacation house outside of Athens.

Vouta (doco) 18.00
Dir. Dimitris Zahos
Vouta is a pigeon breed that flies all the way up to the clouds, then dives at 230 km/h and slows down just before reaching the ground. Christos is a teenager who lives in a disadvantaged neighbourhood of Athens.

1980 (drama) 9.00
Dir. Constantine Venetopoulos
A man looks for love in a dystopian period of time not so different from ours, where fear is the latest pandemic.

Every Sunday (doco) 3.38
Dir. Keti Papadema
A group of Filipino domestic workers in Cyprus prepare for a beauty pageant organised by their community, while a case of a serial killer targeting foreign female workers comes to the surface.

Paradox (drama) 10.15
Dir. Soultana Koumoutsi
"Do you believe in fairy tales? Every night she goes out for a walk, she meets a boy and they end up in a hotel.

Elevator Alone (animation) 3.38
Dir. Anastasia Papadopoulou
Four people and the time they spend in an elevator.

ATHENS INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL PSARO KAI KALO

THE GREEK CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY CULTURE

Sun Theatre

2.30 pm 8th May
The Davis Theatre

Australia's first female filmmakers' program. Films made by female filmmakers. Presented in partnership with WIFT (Vic)

Tickets: Sun Theatre

Heading South (drama) United States 12.54
Dir. Yuan Yuan
Eight year old Chasuna travels from her home on grassland to visit her father who lives in the big city only to discover he is married.

Something has died in the forest (drama) Australia 24.57
Dir. Eva Justine Torkkola
A Ukrainian woman, recently migrated to Australia post WW2, struggles to come to terms with her pregnancy as she relives the trauma of losing her first child.

Gud (drama) Australia 9.21
Dir. Alana Spencer
While celebrating their mother's impromptu visit to Australia, the reunion is short lived as Zara learns of her mother's plans to take her younger sister back to Somalia to have her circumcised.

In Australia (drama) Australia 4.51
Dir. Miley Tunnecliffe
Grace's choice to leave her husband after he turns from the man she loves into an abusive partner, sends her across the country. But Grace finds the outside world is as dangerous as the one she just left.

The Phone Booth (drama) Australia 5.47
Dir. Melissa Swift
During an argument on a quiet street, an estranged couple believes that they hear gunshots nearby. Sequestering themselves inside of a cramped telephone box, they begin to question the reality of their situation and attempt to escape.

Slap (drama) Australia 7.34
Dir. Domini Marshall
An intimidating encounter with a group of teens forces a 12-year-old to ponder her place in the world.

Stick A Fork In Me (horror) Australia 10.41
Dir. Helen Turton
Anthony has invited some friends over for a very special dinner. On the menu; his own recently amputated arm. Unfortunately, not all his guests can stomach the idea.

Kindred Bandroom - The West's premier live music venue. A hidden gem, delivering quality events & gigs across all genres. Catch programmed artists, upcoming bands, touring artists, and EP launches in an inclusive setting with great drinks and even better vibes.

Kindred Studios - The largest creative bub in the West. A place for music industry professionals, creatives, community groups, and locals to meet, work and play. Featuring studios, workspaces, and plenty of room to move; everyone is welcome to make Kindred home.

Kindred Studios

Programmes by local and emerging filmmakers

Monday 9th May 7pm

Tickets: The Banksia

Mum is pouring rain (animation) France 29.35
Dir. Hugo de Faucompret
Jane is looking forward to spending Christmas with her mom but she is sent unknowingly to her Grandma's instead.

Left Behind Australia 4.47
Dir. Montepulciano Callen
A priest tries one last time to convert his brother, to save him from his dying farm.

Jungle (drama) Australia 15.30
Dir. Kieran Wheeler
A young woman awakens to find herself in the midst of a living nightmare.

Maya (drama) Australia 15.08
Dir. Sam Rogers
An alien disguised as a human female seduces unsuspecting victims only to discover something mysterious growing in her belly.

Programming (drama) Australia 3.00
Dir. Olivier Bonenfant
How far will a pregnant woman go to ensure a perfect & idyllic future for her daughter?

Paintings, Sketches, Films and U.F.O's (doco) Australia 4.45
Dir. Tom Vogel
Derek Erskine talks about his art, films and the time he saw U.F.O's while he was living in Tasmania.

Karl Heinz Australia 3.47
Dir. Andrew Robb
A grumpy driver installs a technical upgrade to his old car with unexpected results.

Lundi (drama) Australia 9.08
Dir. Timothy Wilde
While taking coffee at their regular Parisian cafe, Enzo and Louis vie for the affection of the mysterious Josephine. Despite mutually humiliating each other they -absurdly- save each other's lives.

Broken Boat (drama) Australia 10.58
Dir. Angelo Salamanca
When a Kurdish poet flees Iran and journeys to Australia as a refugee, a chance encounter at a community library forges a poignant connection between the poet's new landscape and the home she has left behind.

Kindred Studios

Programmes by local and emerging filmmakers

Monday 9th May 8.45pm
Tickets: **The Dahlia**

Ruby — Australia — 5.00
Dir. Sarah Menegon
Ruby moved to Melbourne to start living the life she wanted to lead, but her family back home has other plans.

Sinking (drama) — Australia — 5.45
Dir. Angie Kilsby
"Sinking" is a short film about a young man (Luce) who isolates himself from reality while absorbed in the memory of his deceased sister.

Flight of the Helmeted Honeyeater (doco) — Australia — 9.07
Dir. Angus Hamilton
Flight of the Helmeted Honeyeater is a documentary focussing on this critically endangered bird.

Crave (doco) — Australia — 5.20
Dir. Vivian Tang
Exploring feelings of disconnect.

Crossover (drama) — Australia — 7.49
Dir. Sam Boe Nielsen
Pat's fiancé is suddenly killed in a hit-and-run. Unable to cope, he joins a group therapy class on the advice of his brother.

Lichen (drama) — Australia — 14.41
Dir. Zoe Robinson
When a Park Ranger discovers critical levels of toxic air pollution surrounding his National Park, he endeavours to publish a controversial exposé.

I Wish I Had a River (drama) — Australia — 8.30
Dir. Ella Rose Crowley
A dissatisfied office worker with a vivid imagination, runs away from home after the death of their grandfather and the emotional distance of their father.

Yes, Chef — Australia — 7.18
Dir. Nicholas Pileio
An Indian cook, abused and exploited by his boss, stumbles into an opportunity to shift the power.

A Heart for Vendetta (drama) — Australia — 24.55
Dir. Jack Vernon
The reckless new recruit of an undercover mercenary organisation attempts to woo his manger amongst escalating tensions with a rival gang.

Inspiration Plains (drama) — Australia — 4.30
Dir. Harriet McKern
A residential nexus for older female artists where liveability meets creativity and the numbers count...Ka-ching!

Kindred Studios

Programmes by local and emerging filmmakers

Wednesday 11th May 7pm

Tickets: **The Palm**

Lonely Boy (drama) Australia 11.23
Dir. Sam Rogers
Shot entirely from the point of view of a woman as she nervously waits for her tinder date to arrive. When her date suggests they do nitrous oxide the night turns to unforgiving places.

A Theory of Incompleteness (drama) Australia 6.00
Dir. Simon Green
A Woman takes a test to join an esoteric order. She falls through time and space battling her assessor. To win, she must control the rules.

Stick A Fork In Me (horror) Australia 10.41
Dir. Helen Turton
Anthony has invited some friends over for a very special dinner. On the menu; his own recently amputated arm. Unfortunately, not all his guests can stomach the idea.

Mother (drama) Australia 9.48
Dir. Darcy Lindstrom
Tainted with a past of drug abuse and child neglect, June has lost custody of her daughter. She sits, waiting in a hospital car park one drug test away from visitation.

Djaambi (drama) Australia 8.00
Dir. Joel Brown
Djaambi centres on Reg, a young Indigenous man, transitioning between past decisions, and the new.

Sandra Australia 14.29
Dir. Sam Rogers
Sandra feeds her voyeuristic addiction by buying random items from strangers on Online classifieds until Alan, a nervous Video gamer forces her to confront her addiction.

Wes Australia 2.12
Dir. Dex Crowley
A young wombat tries to steal a bag of cheese puffs from an unsuspecting ranger's tent.

Atto di dolore (Sub Eng) / Act of Contrition (drama) Italy 14.13
Dir. Ilaria Pascazio
A father and a daughter, their relationship between religion, lies and truths. When something breaks, the daughter will be willing to do anything to win back her father's affection.

Kindred Studios

Programmes by local and emerging filmmakers

Wednesday 11th May 8.45pm

Tickets: The Bridge

Red Handed (comedy) Australia 5.54
Dir. Gary Hegedus
A duo of talented detectives get the chance to crack the case of the century but filming the production doesn't go well.

Slanted Gutter (drama) Australia 10.24
Dir. John Kokkinias
Down on his luck and soon to be divorced, a troubled man is convinced by his best friend to seek solace in revenge.

The Problem Solver (comedy) Australia 10.00
Dir. Andrew Finlay
How do you get in touch with a Hitman? The Problem Solver tells the story of Madison, a scorned woman who has given the better part of her life to a man who has betrayed her

Beta Days (drama) Australia 10.45
Dir. Dan Walls
Another quiet Saturday night at Tinseltown Tapes, one of the last video libraries in town.

Bloom (comedy) Australia 8.40
Dir. Paul De Cinque
Bloom tells the light-hearted comedic tale of Betty, an elderly woman whose rich inner life belies her seemingly conventional appearance.

Locked On Australia 20.26
Dir. Matt Hrkac
On the morning of December 13, 2021 - two staunch climate campaigners (Brad and Tony) and a group of their supporters lock on and blockade the exit to the Exxon-Mobil fuel terminal in Yarraville,

Not for you to see (experimental) Australia 12.27
Dir. Izzi Harris
Two girls live side by side in a grey box, separated by a seamless glass wall. Why, or how they ended up there, doesn't matter.

Puzzled Path (drama) United States 21.59 Dir. Kenneth Ma
Under the shadow of political upheavals in HK, a retired police officer helps his reporter son escape from the riot police.

Online May 12 -16

A diverse series of free programmes available from our website settingsun.com.au

International

Atto di dolore (Sub Eng) / Act of Contrition (drama) Italy 14.13
Dir. Ilaria Pascazio
A father and a daughter, their relationship between religion, lies and truths. When something breaks, the daughter will be willing to do anything to win back her father's affection.

Death & Deathability (comedy) United States 12.20
Dir. Maria Victoria Ponce
Mystified by the unexpected arrival of her first period, Ceci (Blanca Ordaz) calmly concludes she's dying.

Fariba, Fakhteh and the other (drama) Iran 6.00
Dir. Faride Shafiei
Fariba must tell her sister their father has died.

Flawless (comedy) France 15.00
Dir. Nathan Franck
Samuel and Agnes find themselves stuck in the elevator just after the first tried try to steal the bag of the second. Behind closed doors, aggressor and victim confront each other.

Four Out of Five (drama) Iran 9.40
Dir. Bahar Tofighi
A group of friends are coming back from a trip. On the road they get stuck in a time and space loop, only one of them notices the loop.

Gas Station (Sub Eng) (drama) Italy 9.59
Dir. Olga Torrico
Alice works at a gas station. She doesn't play anymore and she buried her fire for music deep inside. On a sultry summer day, her old music teacher shows up.

Heading South (drama) United States 12.54
Dir. Yuan Yuan
Eight year old Chasuna travels from her home on grassland to visit her father who lives in the big city only to discover he is married.

Monster In A Box (drama) United States 9.16
Dir. Noah Weisel
He did it for the role. When carnival hucksters pull their act in the wrong town they get help from the most unlikely of performers.

Inner Self (drama) Spain 15.00
Dir. Mohammad Hormozi
A Violinist girl wants to enter an administrative building but as she lacks the formal hijab, she must stay in the waiting room. She is inspired by the events in the room to make her new piece.

Puzzled Path (drama) United States 21.59
Dir. Kenneth Ma
Under the shadow of political upheavals in HK, a retired police officer helps his reporter son escape from the riot police.

Mum is pouring rain (animation) France 29.35
Dir. Hugo de Faucompret
Jane is looking forward to spending Christmas with her Mom but she is sent unknowingly to her Grandma's instead.

The Departure (drama) France 25.00
Dir. Said Hamich
Morocco, 2004. The summer of Adil, 11 years old, is upset by the visit of his father and his big brother, who leave for France in just a few days.

Tiam (drama) Iran 3.00
Dir. Samaneh Rad
Tiam knows his parents do not want him and he is heartbroken and angry. He comes up with a plan to set himself free.

Yocheved (drama) Iran 15.54
Dir. Sahar Khoshcheshman
Nourjahan is a one-side Afghan seeking illegal asylum to America with Kaveh whom she has recently met. They work together ripping off rich guys.

Volksvreemd (drama) South Africa 50.00
Dir. Bernelee Kritzinger
A young Afrikaans girl hitchhikes across the South Africa in search of her biological father. Along the way, she meets interesting travellers who introduce her to an alternative way of living.

Online May 12 -16

Youth

A diverse series of films made by secondary school students. settingsun.com.au

A Square Peg (doco) 9.29
Dir. Matilda Crowther
A short autobiographical documentary about a trans male's journey of acceptance in their identity.

Agricola 7101 (doco) 8.05
Dir. Ivy Tucker
In the midst of a global pandemic, a young boy is given an extraordinary gift.

An Encounter with Death (drama) 6.07
Dir. Thomas Cronin
This short blends genres of Cerebral Sci Fi Arthouse and Thriller, the film seeks to establish an original perspective on how ideas of the afterlife and depictions of worlds beyond the one we know.

Burnout (student) 8.14
Dir. Theo Huynh
From a regular Melbourne high school, young Eli is a high achieving student. One day, his home life comes crashing down, ruining his ability to do anything.

Balloon (drama) 6.59
Dir. Kevin Gao
This dramatic narrative explores the theme of drug addiction and depression, with intention to evoke sense of fear and urgency towards substance use for the audience.

Claret (drama) 6.00
Dir. Orlando Luis Catoggio
After losing his boyfriend in a homophbia-fueled hate crime, a teen finds himself on a predestined warpath to revenge.

Dream (drama) 1.20
Dir. Gia Linh Pham
A young girl dreams of being able to reunite with her mother who she lost at a young age.

Gender Identity (animation) 3.20
Dir. Ava Lutton, Olive Dillon, Phy Goodenough, Tess Hemley
'Gender Identity' is an animation made by four year 7 students for a Footscray High School, Community Steam Project, designed to teach grade 3 and 4 kids about gender identity.

Goodbye (drama) 7.00
Dir. Joe Doedel
A young adult prepares to leave his youth, memories and friends behind before venturing out into the world.

Grow Up (drama) 7:27
Dir. Sam Huybers
Grow Up aims to tackle the pressures of adulthood on teenagers through the symbolism of video games.

Reflexions (student) 5.38
Dir. Zeta Hamilton-Durkin
After a bad date a young woman decides that the joy of individuality, friendship and solitude overrides any benefits of being in an intimate relationship.

Regret (student) 3.27
Dir. Charlie Stynes
This music video is created with the intent of representing the artist realistically and personally.

Sisyphus (animation) 7.47
Dir. Edward Mayo King
A modern adaptation of the Ancient Greek Myth of Sisyphus.

Submerged (student, drama) 11.00
Dir. Zara Beartice, May Carter 'Submerged' delves into the life of a teenage girl, 'Pascale', struggling with her relationship with her alcoholic father.

We need to be sneaky 1.34
Dir. Alanah Tsiolkas
Two boys decide that having no money should not be a hindrance in getting what they want from a convenience store.

Bloody Mary (drama) 7.27
Dir. Isaac Samuel Johns Three friends are left home alone for a sleepover. But after a twisted round of 'Truth or Dare', an old legend quickly reveals that it's all fun and games until someone loses a face.

Online May 12 -16

Access Cinema

This program is a selection of award winning films that feature people living with a disability, or who are Deaf. There are short and feature length films, in various genres.

Being A Dog (animation) Sweden 8:03
Dir. Felix Swahn
Tim is longing for love. He's a lonely human being who struggles with exclusion every day. Every time Tim feels different than others he transforms into a french bulldog.

Pacing the Pool (doco) Australia 8.29
Dir. Radheya Jegatheva
A tiny glimpse into the extraordinary life of Richard Pace.

Qualia *Original (doco) Australia 8.00
Dir. Heidi Everett
So what's it like to be in the public psychiatric system in Australia if you're in a wheelchair, or from a First Nations family, or in the homeless system? Qualia *Original is a new short film revealing three powerfully divergent voices with glaring human rights issues barely touched in political conversations about our psychiatric system, more concerned about beds, security and recovery.

Dry Fire (drama) Australia 22.32
Dir. Dan Farmer, Adam Bigum, Ramas McRae
A hunter and his protégé are tasked with a mission to hunt for food in the Australian bush during a post-apocalyptic future.

Feeling Through (drama) United States 18.00
Dir. Doug Roland
Feeling Through, the first film to star a DeafBlind actor, is a coming-of-age story that follows Tereek, a teen wandering the streets of New York, desperate for a place to crash when he encounters Artie, a DeafBlind man in need of help getting home.

Leigh (feature length, doco) Australia 98.00
Dir. Ryan Gaskett
Tracking the life of Australian chainsaw artist Leigh Conkie, 'Leigh' is a portrait of a man who has used his experiences of abuse, destruction and loss to craft a life of service, connection and meaning.

Online May 12 -16

The power of art to heal

A selection of films that show the transformative power that art can have in healing people. These films show how music, painting and writing bring comfort and can connect people with others.

Scattered People feature length, doco Australia 61.00
Dir. John Swatland
Scattered People is an Australian documentary revealing the transformational and healing power of music – bringing together people, cultures and countries. Saha and Mas, two young Iranian musicians flee their homeland and seek asylum in Australia. In immigration detention they encounter the Scattered People band – a small group of kindred spirits who play music and create songs with refugees and people seeking asylum.

Broken Boat (drama) Australia 10.58
Dir. Angelo Salamanca
When a Kurdish poet flees Iran and journeys to Australia as a refugee, a chance encounter at a community library forges a poignant connection between the poet's new landscape and the home she has left behind.

The Art in Healing Australia 26.00
Dir. Stella Dimadis
A film explores the role that creativity and art
plays in people's lives, particularly when personal trauma occurs or when people are afflicted by natural disasters.

JUDGES

Arden Pryor is an LA-based Australian screenwriter and producer. He is currently a Producer at Voyage Media and recently worked in development at Cindy Cowan Entertainment, where he was involved in developing the upcoming true-life horror feature film, *True Haunting*. During his 10-year career, Arden has developed his own projects, directed live comedy shows, and toiled behind the scenes on talk shows like *Tonightly With Tom Ballard*. He is best known for creating the hit Australian TV sitcom *Fix Her Up* (Amazon Prime). Prior to breaking into writing, Arden started his career as a character actor. He notably played Rebel Wilson's mother in her first show, *Fat Pizza*.

Lauren Simpson
Lauren's film story started with a specialist study in film at California State University Long Beach. She backed that up with a Bachelor of Film and Television from Swinburne University and an MBA from the Australian Institute of Business. Her work in the industry has been varied and rewarding, working with FilmInk Movie Magazine, Event Cinemas and as an accomplished freelance Service Producer, Lauren has produced high-level international content for companies around the world. Today she's the President of WIFT Vic and CEO of Iris Arc Pictures – where she's producing several high-concept genre feature films, series and podcasts.

Linda Fincke
Linda studied hands-on filmmaking at NYU, shooting 16MM from the hip on the mean streets of New York and earning a wealth of practical experience along the way. Her background in production has opened up opportunities to work for the likes of Deaf TV Network, crew on documentaries and produce her own short films, such as the haunting romantic mystery Inamorata. Linda has forged a successful career in film marketing, event management and PR, having worked for majors such as The Walt Disney Company and Universal Pictures. Linda has a keen eye for honesty and depth in storytelling, her passion for film is considerable and her enthusiasm for it is highly contagious.

Dale Fincke
Dale comes from the old school of filmmaking, having shot music videos on Super8 and 16MM for local bands Banana Oil and Thimbleye. He learnt how to change over film magazines in change bags just before the call of parenthood thrust him into changing nappies and carrying nappy bags! He has worked for Umbrella Entertainment, helping to champion Aussie independent releases and keep the flame of cult classic and schlock horror films flickering on DVD. A self-confessed cinephile, he studied Professional Writing at Victoria University which gave him the excellent excuse to write his first and only(unproduced) feature screenplay B*lowing Bubblegum Dreams*. Maybe one day his dreams will come true, or spectacularlyburst in the crazy pursuit of entertainment.

Maria Papas
Maria Papas is an actor who works in local film, TV and theatre. Recently, she worked on two local independent films, *Ginger*, and *Love Rewind*, in which she was co-lead. She has perfumed in the Melbourne Fringe, the ABC, *Neighbours*, Women's Circus and various shows at La Mama theatre. Maria was awarded best actor for her worn on the film Witches, by Harrison Murray, a Tropfest finalist. She has trained with local and international teachers including Greg Apps (TAT), Wendy Ward (USA) in the Meisner Technique and Anna McCrossin Owen.

Louis Scacciante
Louis Scacciante grew up in the West. He is a teacher with 25 years' experience in the state secondary school system. He has taught film as text, scriptwriting and film-making and has worked as a VCCA assessor. Louis has a special interest in Italian cinema, in particular the films of Bernardo Bertolucci.

Roman Meyer
Roman moved to Australia and completed his bachelor degree in film studies at JMC Academy in Melbourne. While working as an Assistant Director on many TV dramas and feature films he has directed a number of short films including the award winning 'selfish' and 'Scratch', music clips and documentaries. His short films 'Senseless' and 'Last Tune' were shortlisted for Tropfest in 2013 and 2014 and 'Senseless' won 4 awards at the Setting Sun Short Film Festival 2014 including for Best Director, and Best Short Film. At the same festival in 2016 his short 'Sweet Dreams' won three awards including Best Comedy Roman's most recent projects have been documentaries. One for the 10th anniversary of the Deutsche Schule (German School) in Melbourne called 'Zehn', and his latest is 'Finding Happy' where he went high up into the Swiss Mountains to meet an alpine farmer/cheese maker to explore out what happiness means to her.

Isabella Susnica
Isabella Susnica is a 20 year old media student with a passion for all things film and photography. She spends most of her time taking photos, filming and editing. She has a particular interest in documenting life through means of both fiction and non-fiction filmmaking. When she's not creating, she spends her time watching music videos and non-fiction film. She hopes one day to be a filmmaker whose films will bring comfort to those facing adversity.

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