



## MEDIA RELEASE

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:00 WEDNESDAY 6 MAY 2015**

# SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 15 FINALISTS FOR EVENT CINEMAS AUSTRALIAN SHORT SCREENPLAY AWARD

The 62<sup>nd</sup> Sydney Film Festival announces the 18 finalists for the Event Cinemas Australian Short Screenplay Award.

The Event Cinemas Australian Short Screenplay Award sponsored by Event Cinemas provides a \$5000 cash prize for best short screenplay in one of the short fiction films selected for the Sydney Film Festival program. All Australian short fiction films screening in the Festival are eligible and the winner is announced at the **Closing Night Gala** on **Sunday 14 June** at the **State Theatre**.

“Event Cinemas is thrilled to continue our collaboration with Sydney Film Festival, as a venue partner and through supporting Australian short-film screenwriting,” said **Event Cinemas George Street General Manager, Anthony Kierann**. “Australia produces hugely talented writers who create diverse, exciting, thought-provoking films that represent Australia to the world. The award we hope will play a significant part in developing and nourishing our gifted writers to continue to develop and present their stories on the international film landscape.”

Winners of all Sydney Film Festival awards are presented with the Festival’s signature mesmeric swirl award, designed and handmade in Sydney by our partners Dinosaur Designs.

**The Australian short films eligible for the 2015 Event Cinemas Australian Short Screenplay Award are:**

- **BLUEY** Australia | 2015 | 13 mins | In English Australian Premiere  
*Director: Darlene Johnson*
- **CHEROKEE** Australia | 2014 | 11 mins | In English  
*Director, Screenwriter: Jem Rankin | Producer: Frances Wang-Ward | Cast: Jane Allsop, Edwin Royce, Don Bridges*
- **DEATH IN BLOOM** Australia | 2014 | 11 mins | In English  
*Director, Screenwriter: Dael Oates | Producers: Jonas McLallen, Dael Oates | Cast: Robyn Nevin, Ewen Leslie*
- **ERNIE BISCUIT** Australia | 2015 | 21 mins | In English  
*Director, Screenwriter, Producer: Adam Elliot | Narrator: John Flaus*
- **GOODNIGHT SWEETHEART** Australia | 2015 | 12 mins | In English World Premiere  
*Director: Bec Peniston- Bird*
- **KARROYUL** Australia | 2015 | 15 mins | In English | World Premiere  
*Director: Kelrick Martin | Producers: Jaclyn Hewer, Melissa Kelly*
- **MAAP MORDAK** Australia | 2014 | 7 mins | In English and Noongar with English subtitles | World Premiere

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- Director: Dot West | Producer: Jodie Bell*
- **MAN REAL** Australia | 2015 | 11 mins | In English | World Premiere  
*Director: Tracey Rigney | Producer: John Harvey*
  - **MARKERS** Australia | 2014 | 10 mins | In English  
*Director: Rhett Wade-Ferrell | Screenwriter: Rhett Wade-Ferrell, Will Howarth | Producer: Carla de Menezes Ribeiro | Cast: Eduard Geyl, Geraldine Hakewill, Leighton Watts*
  - **NULLA NULLA** Australia | 2014 | 6 mins | In English, Warlpiri and Anmatyere with English subtitles  
• Australian Premiere  
*Director: Dylan River | Producer: Tanith Glynn-Maloney*
  - **ON STAGE** Australia | 2015 | 10 mins | In English | Australian Premiere  
*Director: Benjamin Southwell | Producer: Ian Ludwick*
  - **RED ROVER** Australia | 2014 | 15 mins | In English  
*Director, Screenwriter: Brooke Goldfinch | Producer: Brietta Hague and Apolline Berty | Cast: Natalie Racoosin, Christopher Gray*
  - **SLINGSHOT** Australia | 2015 | 7 mins | In English World Premiere  
*Director: David Hansen*
  - **THE DROVER'S BOY** Australia | 2014 | 11 mins | In English | World Premiere  
*Director: Margaret McHugh*
  - **THE GUESTS** Australia | 2015 | 11 mins | In English Australian Premiere  
*Director: Shane Danielsen*
  - **THE ORCHESTRA** Australia | 2015 | 15 mins  
*Director: Mikey Hill | Screenwriters: Mikey Hill, Jennifer Smith | Producer: Melanie Brunt*
  - **UNDER SKIN, IN BLOOD** Australia | 2015 | 12 mins | In English | World Premiere  
*Director: Larissa Behrendt | Producer: John Harvey*
  - **YOU TURN** Australia | 2015 | 11 mins | In English | World Premiere  
*Director: Ryan Griffen | Producer: John Harvey*

**Sydney Film Festival runs 3 – 14 June 2015.**

Tickets for Sydney Film Festival 2015 are on sale now. Please call 1300 733 733 or visit [sff.org.au](http://sff.org.au) for more information.

## ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

From **Wednesday 3 June to Sunday 14 June 2015**, the 62<sup>nd</sup> Sydney Film Festival offers Sydneysiders another exciting season of cinema amidst a whirlwind of premieres, red-carpet openings, panel discussions, international guests and more. Each year the Festival's programming team curates 12 days of cinema sourced from world-famous film festivals, including Cannes, Sundance, Toronto and the Berlinale; as well as Australia's finest local productions.

Sydney Film Festival also presents an Official Competition of 12 films that vie for the Sydney Film Prize, a highly respected honour that awards a \$60,000 cash prize based on the decision of a jury of international and Australian filmmakers and industry professionals. Previous Sydney Film Prize winners are: *Two Days, One Night* (2014); *Only God Forgives* (2013); *Alps* (2012); *A Separation* (2011), which went on to win an Academy Award; *Heartbeats* (2010); and *Bronson* (2009).

The Festival takes place across greater Sydney: at the State Theatre, Event Cinemas George Street, Dendy Opera Quays, Dendy Newtown, Art Gallery of NSW, Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace Cremorne, Casula Powerhouse, the Festival Hub at Sydney Town Hall and SFF Outdoor Screen.

The Festival is a major event on the New South Wales cultural calendar and is one of the world's longest-running film festivals. For more information visit: [www.sff.org.au](http://www.sff.org.au).

The 62<sup>nd</sup> Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Screen NSW and Destination NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia and the City of Sydney

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