



## MEDIA RELEASE

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 10:00 WEDNESDAY 7 MAY 2014**

# SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AT THE STATE

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Sydney Film Festival today revealed the 14 films to screen in the Special Presentations at the State program.

The Special Presentations program, presented by new Sydney Film Festival partner **Princess Cruises**, offers audiences the ultimate Festival experience with screenings at the magnificent State Theatre, often with special filmmaker guests in attendance.

“Princess Cruises is very pleased to be partnering with Sydney Film Festival to present this program of films,” said **Princess Cruises Vice President, Australia, Stuart Allison**. “Princess Cruises and Sydney Film Festival offer meaningful escapes and experiences, be they cultural, personal or intellectual. We are proud to be partnering the Festival this year and look forward to enjoying the Festival this June.

“From the sun-drenched, star-studded thriller *The Two Faces of January* to the uplifting musical comedy *Begin Again* featuring **Keira Knightly** and **Mark Ruffalo**, this program of films at the State Theatre offers audiences a highly entertaining and eye-opening Festival experience,” said **SFF Festival Director Nashen Moodley**.

Some of the filmmaker guests confirmed as of 7 May to introduce the films in the 2014 Special Presentations at the State program are: *Gabrielle* actor **Alexandre Landry** on Friday 13 June at 8:35pm, *The Two Faces of January* director **Hossein Amini** on Wednesday 11 June at 8:35pm and *Words and Pictures* director **Fred Schepisi** on Monday 9 June at 2:20pm.

### **SFF 2014 Special Presentations at the State program:**

***Begin Again*** USA | 2013 | 101 mins | In English

Director, Screenwriter: *John Carney* | Producers: *Torbin Armbrust, Anthony Bregman* | Cast: *Keira Knightley, Mark Ruffalo, Adam Levine* | Distributor: *Roadshow Films*

***Calvary*** Ireland, UK | 2013 | 100 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

Director, Screenwriter: *John Michael McDonagh* | Producers: *Chris Clark, Flora Fernandez-Marengo, James Flynn* | Cast: *Brendan Gleeson, Chris O'Dowd, Kelly Reilly, Aidan Gillen, Dylan Moran* | Distributor: *Transmission Films*

***The Captive*** Canada | 2014 | 112 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

Director: *Atom Egoyan* | Screenwriters: *Atom Egoyan, David Fraser* | Producers: *Simone Urdl, Jennifer Weiss, Stephen Traynor, Atom Egoyan* | Cast: *Ryan Reynolds, Scott Speedman, Rosario Dawson, Mireille Enos* | Distributor: *Icon Film Distribution*

**Cold in July** USA, France | 2014 | 109 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

*Director: Jim Mickle | Screenwriters: Jim Mickle, Nick Damici | Producers: Linda Moran, Rene Bastian, Adam Folk, Marie Savare | Cast: Michael C. Hall, Sam Shepard, Don Johnson | Distributor: Umbrella Entertainment*

**Frank** Ireland | 2014 | 95 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

*Director: Lenny Abrahamson | Screenwriters: Jon Ronson, Peter Straughan | Producers: Ed Guiney, David Barron, Stevie Lee | Cast: Michael Fassbender, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Scoot McNairy, Domhnall Gleeson, | Distributor: Madman Entertainment*

**Gabrielle** Canada | 2013 | 102 mins | In French with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

*Director, Screenwriter: Louise Archambault | Producers: Kim McCraw, Luc Déry | Cast: Gabrielle Marion-Rivard, Alexandre Landry, Mélissa Désormeaux-Poulin | Distributor: Sharmill Films*

**In Order of Disappearance** Norway, Sweden, Denmark | 2013 | 116 mins | In English, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish and Serbian with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

*Director: Hans Petter Moland | Screenwriter: Kim Fupz Aakeson | Producers: Finn Gjerdrum, Stein B. Kvae | Cast: Stellan Skarsgård, Pål Sverre Hagen, Bruno Ganz | Distributor: Madman Entertainment*

**Is the Man Who is Tall Happy?** USA | 2013 | 88 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

*Director, Screenwriter: Michel Gondry | Producers: Georges Bermann, Michel Gondry, Julie Fong, Raffi Adlan | Distributor: Rialto Distribution*

**The Lunchbox** India, Germany, France, USA | 2013 | 105 mins | In Hindi, English with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

*Director, Screenwriter: Ritesh Batra | Producers: Guneet Monga, Anurag Kashyap, Arun Rangachari | Cast: Irrfan Khan, Nimrat Kaur, Nawazuddin Siddiqui | Distributor: Madman Entertainment*

**Rock the Casbah** France, Morocco | 2013 | 99 mins | In French and Arabic with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

*Director, Screenwriter: Laïla Marrakchi | Producer: Stephanie Carreras | Cast: Morjana Alaoui, Nadine Labaki, Omar Sharif, Lubna Azabal, Hiam Abbass | Distributor: Pinnacle Films*

**The Tale of Princess Kaguya** Japan | 2013 | 137 mins | In Japanese with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

*Director: Isao Takahata | Screenwriters: Isao Takahata, Riko Sakaguchi | Producer: Yoshiaki Nishimura | Cast: Aki Asakura, Kengo Kora, Takeo Chii | Distributor: Madman Entertainment*

**The Two Faces of January** UK, USA, France | 2014 | 97 mins | In English, Greek and Turkish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere

*Director, Screenwriter: Hossein Amini | Producers: Tim Bevan, Robyn Slovo, Tom Sternberg, Eric Fellner | Cast: Viggo Mortensen, Kirsten Dunst, Oscar Isaac | Distributor: StudioCanal*

**Wish I Was Here** USA | 2014 | 107 mins | In English | International Premiere

*Director: Zach Braff | Screenwriters: Zach Braff, Adam Braff | Producers: Zach Braff, Matthew Andrews, Stacey Sher, Michael Shamberg | Cast: Zach Braff, Joey King, Kate Hudson, Josh Gad, Mandy Patinkin | Distributor: Transmission Films*

**Words and Pictures** USA | 2013 | 115 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

*Director: Fred Schepisi | Screenwriter: Gerald DiPego | Producers: Curtis Burch, Gerald DiPego | Cast: Clive Owen, Juliette Binoche | Distributor: Umbrella Entertainment*

**The 61<sup>st</sup> Sydney Film Festival runs 4-15 June and brings a packed program of screenings and special events to even more venues across Sydney.** For tickets and full up-to-date program information visit [sff.org.au](http://sff.org.au)

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## ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Sydney Film Festival screens feature films, documentaries, short films and animated films across the city at the State Theatre, Event Cinemas George Street, Dendy Opera Quays, the Art Gallery of NSW, Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace Cremorne, the Apple Store, SFFTV at Martin Place, Skyline Drive-In Blacktown, and the Festival Hub at Town Hall.

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)

Sydney Film Festival also presents 12 films that vie for the Official Competition, a highly respected international 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 include: *Only God Forgives* (2013), *Alps* (2012), *A Separation* (2011) – which went on to win an Academy Award, *Heartbeats* (2010), *Bronson* (2009) and *Hunger* (2008).

The 61st Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Screen NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia, and the City of Sydney. The Festival's Strategic partner is the NSW Government through Destination NSW.

**What:** Sydney Film Festival

**When:** 4-15 June, 2014

**Tickets & Info:** 1300 733 733 [sff.org.au](http://sff.org.au)

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## MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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### Principal State Government partner



### Strategic partner



### Government partners

