MEDIA RELEASE



EMBARGOED UNTIL: Wednesday 9 May, 2012

Sydney Film Festival, 6-17 June presents foodie film: Entre Les Bras (Step Up To the Plate)

See three-Michelin star chef **Michel Bras** make his world-famous signature dish *Le Gargouillou* in the Australian premiere of **Entre Les Bras** at **Sydney Film Festival** this June.

Described by *Time* magazine as a 'rare window into the mysterious creative process of a chef', this documentary set in France's Aveyron region, follows the age-old story of a father handing over the family business to his son. Except this family business is a three-star Michelin restaurant!

Winning his first Michelin star for his restaurant **Lou Mazuc** in 1982, Bras has achieved and held three stars for his restaurant **Bras** since 1999. He also won a Navarra Gourmet Prize in 2009 for creating a style which has changed the course of contemporary cuisine.

Director **Paul Lacoste** builds tension by raising questions: can Sebastien reach the same culinary heights as his famous father? Will he be allowed to find his own voice?

Filming the pair over 12 months, Lacoste found the documentary was as much about food as it was about the relationship between father and son, and the essence of the filial relationship. 'After all, we feed our children, yes?' Lacoste said.

As much botanist as chef, Bras' trademarks are using aromatic herbs picked just hours before service, abolishing creams and sauces as well as having extreme respect for seasonal produce. He has created two signature dishes, the celebrated *Le Coulant* (molten chocolate cake), a near-mythical concoction of cake filled with flowing chocolate fondant, and the culinary bouquet of *Le Gargouillou*, literally 'bubbling of young vegetables' which uses up to 50 ingredients in an extraordinary salad crafted from Nature's seasonal offerings.

'He has been copied by ... every chef in the world,' said celebrated New York chef Wylie Dufresne. 'We've taken a page out of the Bras book -- the schmear, the spoon drag, putting food on a plate like it fell off a tree.'

ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Sydney Film Festival screens feature films, documentaries, short films and animations across the city including at the State Theatre, Event Cinemas George Street, Dendy Opera Quays and the Art Gallery of NSW. 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 <u>http://www.sff.org.au</u>.

The 59th Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Arts NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia, and the City of Sydney. The festival's Strategic partner is the NSW Government through Destination NSW.

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