

February 9, 2012



Biography

Nashen Moodley

Sydney Film Festival Director

The 2012 Sydney Film Festival welcomes Nashen Moodley in his first year as Festival Director. Moodley's impressive career in film programming has encompassed leadership roles as Manager/Head of Programming at South Africa's **Durban International Film Festival** (2001-2011) and Director of Asia and Africa programs for **Dubai International Film Festival** (2005-current) as well as curating Tehran's first South African Film Festival (2006).

During Moodley's ten years at Durban International Film Festival - South Africa's longest running film festival - he was responsible for expanding the content and reach of the festival. He also raised the profile of the South African film industry by establishing the **Durban FilmMart**, a program that provides African filmmakers with the opportunity to pitch film projects to leading financiers.

In addition to programming, Moodley has served as advisor to India's **International Film Festival of Kerala**, South Korea's **Busan International Film Festival** and **Africala** in Mexico City. Moodley has also worked as an Industry Consultant at **International Film Festival Rotterdam**, and as a regular expert guest as part of the Programme Events at **Berlinale Talent Campus**.

Born in South Africa in 1978, Moodley studied English and Philosophy at the University of Natal and worked as a journalist before turning to film. His film writing and criticism has appeared in newspapers and magazines including **GQ**, **The Sunday Independent** and **The Guardian** online. He is also a film critic for South Africa's **Sunday Tribune**.

Over recent years Moodley has programmed many Australian films internationally including; Cate Shortland's *Sommersault*, Ivan Sen's *Beneath Clouds*, Ray Lawrence's *Lantana* and *Jindabyne*, Warrick Thornton's *Samson and Delilah*, Philipe Noyce's *Rabbit Proof Fence*, David Michôd's *Animal Kingdom*, Sue Brooks' *Japanese Story* and Benjamin Gilmour's *Son of a Lion*.

'I'm a big fan of Australian film but also of Australian literature, music and sport,' a cricket-loving Moodley said, soon after relocating to Sydney's Surry Hills. 'Sydney has a vibrant arts scene and a cosmopolitan, cinema-loving audience. I'm very much looking forward to my time here and to bringing your city some great films.'

The Sydney Film Festival's full program will be announced 9th May 2012. This year's Sydney Film Festival runs from 6-17 June 2012.

ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Each June, Sydney Film Festival screens across the city at venues including the State Theatre, Event Cinemas George Street and Dendy Opera Quays. Patrons are encouraged to choose the way of engaging with the festival that best fits their lifestyle and budget. This means we welcome single-ticket buyers, Flexipass 30, 20 or 10 buyers, or Subscribers to our daytime or evening programs. Flexipass buyers can share their passes with friends and family, making meeting over a movie easier while you save on single-ticket prices. Buying any form of ticket is easier than ever at [sff.org.au](http://www.sff.org.au), via our iPhone or Android App, by phone on 1300 SFF SFF or at any of our cinema Box Offices.

Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government, through Arts NSW and the Office of Trade, Business and Industry, the Federal Government through Screen Australia, and the City of Sydney.

Since its inception in June 1954 the festival has grown into a well-established and respected event on the international film festival calendar, as well as a flagship cultural event for Sydney and New South Wales. Sydney is a UNESCO designated International City of Film, acknowledgement by the Creative Cities Network of the depth, breadth and vibrancy of the city's film industry and culture. Sydney Film Festival 2012 will roll out the red carpet from 6 – 17 June. For more information visit <http://www.sff.org.au>

MEDIA ENQUIRIES



Amber Forrest-Bisley, Director – Cardinal Spin

E: amber@cardinalspin.com.au P: 02 8065 7363, M: 0405 363 817

Kylie Edwards, Director – Cardinal Spin

E: kylie@cardinalspin.com.au M: 0422 233 996

Matt Fraser, Communications Advisor – Cardinal Spin

E: matt@cardinalspin.com.au M: 0401 326 007

Principal State Government partner



Government partners



SCREEN
AUSTRALIA

